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AND

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MARRIAGE.

At Hongkong, on the 14th February. MARION IRENE, youngest daughter of the late J. RIDDEL, Esq., of Sydney, N.S.W., to SYDNEY W. MOORE, Master of the C. N. Co.'s steamer *Sungkiang*.
D.E.A.H.S.

At Welbeck Street, London, on the 26th December, 1899, of acute pneumonia, CHARLES WILLIAM BAIRD, son of the late Charles Robert Baird, writer, Glasgow.

At his residence, Fernside, Robinson Road, on Sunday, the 11th February, EDWARD BURNIE, in his 58th year.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 16th January arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, on the 12th February (27 days), and the French mail of the 13th January arrived, per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 14th February (32 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

H.M.S. *Peacock* arrived at Shanghai on the 6th and was to proceed up the Yangtze.

There were 13,341 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 262 were Europeans.

The German cruiser *Kaiserin Augusta* having completed her extensive repairs at Shanghai has left there for Kiaochow.

The Shanghai A.D.C. is producing a farcical comedy in three acts, entitled "A night out," by Georges Feydeau and Maurice Desvalieres.

The Portuguese gun-boat *Zare*, 558 tons, 135 crew, and 5 guns, arrived at Singapore on the 3rd inst., from Colombo bound for Macao.

It is said to be quite true that the Emperor of China recently tried to escape from the Palace, but got no farther than the city gate.

Lieut. Wade of the Royal Lancaster Regiment killed at Spionkop on the 24th ult., was a son of the late Sir T. F. Wade, British Minister to China.

The Hongkong Jockey Club have reduced their prices of admission for the Spring Race Meeting to the former figures, namely \$5 for the meeting or \$2 per day.

For the week ending 10th February, two cases of bubonic plague were reported in Hongkong and three deaths. A case of enteric fever on board H.M.S. *Iphigenia* was also reported. There were three cases of small pox and three deaths.

Indo-China will be well represented at the Paris Exhibition this year. M. Doumer, the Governor-General, is spending nearly £80,000 on his section, which covers a third of the total area of ground set apart for colonial exhibits. One of the typical buildings in course of erection is a reproduction of the King of Cambodia's pagoda.

On the 5th instant, at Shanghai, the *Sun-an*, the second new steamer for Messrs Arnhold, Karberg & Co's river line, went on a trial trip to the Woosung Spit buoy and back. All parties were satisfied and she was to leave on her maiden voyage for Hankow a few days later. The vessel burnt liquid fuel and is commanded by Captain B. H. Fuhlers.

An accident occurred on Tuesday evening, 6th inst., at Shanghai, resulting in the drowning of James Tozer, a chief stoker on board H.M.S. *Peacock*. It appears the gumboat was coaling during the evening and deceased, while walking over the boats alongside, slipped and fell into the river. He was seen to fall but efforts to recover the body were unsuccessful. Deceased was 39 years of age and would have been a time-expired man in another 12 months. Information was given to the River Police but the body had not been found.

Major-General Dickson, commanding the garrison at Singapore, has been appointed, by telegram, to command a cavalry brigade in South Africa. He leaves immediately for the front. Major-General Dickson served in the latter part of the Zulu War of 1879 with the Native Carrier Corps, for which he received a medal and clasp. He served in the Nile Expedition, 1884-85 with the Camel Corps and was present at the action of Abu Klea, being severely wounded. For this work he received the medal with two clasps and the Khedive's Star.

The Hongkong Volunteer Corps orders for the week ending Feb. 17th contain the following:—"Lieutenant-Colonel Sir J. W. Carrington, C.M.G., having returned from leave, resumes appointment of commandant of the corps, dated 7th February, 1900. On resuming command of the corps the commandant desires to express his sincere gratification at the great increase in the numbers and efficiency of the corps which has taken place during his absence, and at the same time to place on record his sense of the deep obligation under which all ranks lie to Colonel R. B. Mainwaring, C.M.G., Royal Welch Fusiliers, and Major M. M. Morris, R.G.A., for their services, so generously rendered and so fortunate in their results, in holding the command during the last ten months."

At a recent general meeting of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps Captain Donald Mackenzie was unanimously elected Commandant of the Corps, on the motion of Major Brodie Clarke, seconded by Captain Trueman. Captain Mackenzie, R.M.I.I., is Assistant Superintendent of Police, and was formerly adjutant of the Shanghai Volunteers. Under his command the S. V. C. will undoubtedly become a very efficient force.

Mr. E. Bard, a prominent member of the French community at Shanghai, and manager there of Messrs. Olivier de Langenhagen and Co., has died from influenza. He deceased was the first captain of the French Volunteers there, and chairman in 1897-98 of the French Municipal Council. He published while at home lately an excellent book on China. He was buried with military honours in accordance with the Volunteers of the International Settlement assisted their French confreres.

Many residents will regret the death of Capt. Burnie. He arrived in Hongkong about 1861, was officer and master in the service of Douglas Lapraik & Co's steamers up to 1877; then he joined the late Capt. Cairns as marine surveyor. After Capt. Cairns' death he carried on business on his own account. He was active and hard working up to four months ago, when he was laid up with an attack of heart disease. The deceased was well known in the colony, and all over the coast of China was well liked and respected by all who knew him. He leaves behind a widow, three sons and three daughters. The remains were interred in the Protestant Cemetery, Happy Valley.

The Chinaifu correspondent of the *Mercury*, writing on the 15th ult., says:—"Three of the murderers of the Rev. Mr. Brooks have been arrested in the vicinity of where the crime was committed. They were brought to Chinan, at once examined by the Governor and forthwith sentenced to death. One of them said that Mr. Brooks was wounded in seventeen places, that he himself had dealt the twelfth blow, the fatal one, in order to put the foreigner out of misery. They reported eight others as implicated in the crime. When asked why they killed Brooks, one of them laid to the young missionary's charge such acts of diabolism as the Harcan tracts are full of. Mr. Brooks' body has been encoffined and transported to Pingyin."

On Friday afternoon the *Isla de Luzon*, one of the Spanish prizes captured by the Americans, returned to the harbour after undergoing her final trial. The trial was eminently satisfactory, and the vessel will start for the Philippines in about a week. She is now in commission. Captain Bleeker is in command. During the trial the navigation and general working of the vessel was carried out by her own officers and crew. She steamed out to the south-west of the Ladrone Islands, various tests being applied during the voyage. The vessel was not put under forced draught, but she was subjected to a very strict speed test, ranging from extreme slow to full power, a speed of a little over eleven knots attained. All the guns in the battery were fired six times, and the guns were tested at extreme elevation, extreme pressure, and target practice was made at a range of 1,200 yards. Naval-Constructor Hobson and Lieut.-Commander Burgdoff constituted the Board of Inspection. Mr. W. C. Jack was present on behalf of the Dock Company.

REFORM IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 12th February.)

A nation, said General GORDON, has the government it best deserves. If China were worthy of a good government it would have it. Such was his deliberate statement on returning from his last visit to Peking. Despairing of the people and the government he had done so much to help, he refused the splendid offers made to him by LI HUNG-CHANG as unworthy of a British officer, and finally fell, the victim of treachery abroad and insincerity at home, with his face to the enemy at Khartoum. The truth of GORDON's statement has been amply justified since GORDON's farewell to China in 1880. The government which he had tried to reanimate in 1863-64, had accepted indeed the fruits of his campaign against the Taiping rebels. According to its lights it had not been ungrateful to GORDON; it had regularly paid the troops under his command while he was at their head, and it had offered GORDON a handsome pecuniary reward for his services, which he had in a chivalrous manner, utterly incomprehensible to it, declined. What more could it do? England had but a few years before brought the Chinese Government to book for a series of outrages, but it had failed to be consistent, and allowed that government little by little to encroach, and at last, afraid of its own work, had decided to prop up by its active assistance that very government. It was a course of action extremely difficult to explain to an Oriental, and especially a Chinese government. It might indeed have been made clear had England been well represented; but England was not well represented at Peking, and at home she was in the hands of a school of doctrinaires. GORDON was but an emissary of the British Government; his troops were paid by the Chinese Government, wherein was he better than any other mercenary? What he had done he was doubtless paid for, and the bargain was concluded when he had handed back Soochow to the Futai of the province. The British Government would not have done what it did had it not had its *quid pro quo*; its pressing of reforms was its affair, and only a part of its usual policy. Chinese government was good enough for China, and if the English wanted better let them pay for it themselves. Such ideas could have but one result, that of confirming all the abuses, and the government, having no head to guide it, instead of taking example by what it saw sound it steadily retrograded. The other members of the Regency died off, and the present, the youngest, but also the most grasping and avaricious hung on. A mere concubine of YIENFUNG, she was utterly without education; but she had those feminine traits, which in all ages have marked the favourite of the harem, and formed one of the worst characteristics of the system: a talent for intrigue and insatiate craving for power, turning in later years to acquisitiveness of every description, when young for jewels, when old for heaping gold. Added to all these an indifference for others, gradually changing into a love of cruelty for its own sake; and over all an unbridled licentiousness, without even the pretence of veil. Such a sovereign was admirably suited by the equally unscrupulous LI HUNG CHANG, and the month of September, 1898, saw the triumph of the two in the deposition of the unhappy KUANGSU. Chosen at a tender age to sit in the place of the equally unfortunate TUNG CHI, who had on arriving at man's estate shown some of the independence of character hereditary in his house, careful measures had been

taken during his adolescence to debauch his mind and emasculate his body. A sense of his responsibilities from some strange quarter shone in on his benighted mind; the sorrows of his country made a deep impression on his mind, and he determined to take on himself the resuscitation of the state. The first necessity was to get rid of the shameless woman, who was abusing her right as Regent and usurping the prerogatives of the Emperor, and to seek to purify his own court, which had become a hot-bed of corruption. He unfortunately underrated the difficulties of the task. A traitor was amongst his confidants, set there by the Empress Dowager and the intention was revealed. In a case of this sort the Dowager Empress was capable of striking effectually; she anticipated, by a few hours apparently, the plans of the Emperor, and the latter, instead of relegating his adopted aunt to the obscurity she deserved as a slight punishment for her crimes, found himself a close prisoner instead. Whether KUANGSU's advisers were, or were not capable of effecting the reforms in the Court their master had planned, may be a moot-point. At all events the Dowager's measures were taken so promptly and effectually that the movement was nipped in the bud, and the Dowager and her party had the inestimable advantage of being able to tell their own story and put before the Empire a garbled view of the affair. This enabled them to enlist on their side the conservative tendencies of the people at large, and no action was taken through the provinces who sullenly accepted the position. Still the powerful Yangtze Viceroy was by no means satisfied by a change in which they had not been consulted, and took little pains to conceal their disapprobation. The very success of the Dowager Empress raised up jealousies amongst her *entourage*. LI HUNG CHANG has ambitions of his own, not easily satisfied, and was not pleased when he found himself superseded by men like JUNG LU, Prince CHING, and his own former protégé, TUEN SHI-KAI. The power of intrigue which had made the Dowager mistress of the situation did not desert her, and quietly and one by one places of importance were filled by nonentities who she felt could not afford to act independently. CHANG CHIH-TUNG was for the moment cajoled. LUI KWEN YIH, worn out by years, was relieved of the cares of office, and KANGYI was sent to exploit the provinces and see how far she could press matters. She found an unexpected power of yielding, so much that the fixed idea of her mind, the final deposition, and final murder of the Emperor were decided on. Even the inert mass of the Chinese Empire was for the moment galvanised into what looked like opposition. The foreign ministers, or at least those representing the cause of order—Germany, America and Great Britain, whose services were sometimes useful when France or Russia asked a little too much, protested, and petitions, very humbly worded indeed, but not to be altogether despised came rumbling in from the provinces. LI HUNG-CHANG with his characteristic instinct of evasion, would not declare himself one way or the other, and for the instant affairs looked black. But these things portend little in China. The one-man system introduced in 2,120 by TSIN SHI HWANGTI has had its natural effect. The Emperor must either be an autocrat or a cypher, and as few men are capable of acting the former role the empire has by degrees in each dynasty fallen into the hands of the Mayors of the Palace, till relief has come from without.

Never in the long course of her history has a government in China been able to regenerate itself. Her life is ganglionic rather than cephalic; cut off the head the fragments continue to lead the same purposeless life as before, but never proceed further, and it is not till after wading for years in blood that some individual possessed of more stamina than the rest has pushed his way to the front that for a time the unwieldy body bestirs itself. But this energy lasts only till the temporary spur exhausts itself, when the whole falls back to its previous condition. The present in China recalls the past; no man trained under the enervating and demoralising system of government can retain sufficient energy to strike out a path for himself. On the other hand foreign pressure is too great and too immediate, and foreign jealousies too strong, to permit an adventurer like CHU YUEN-CHANG, the founder of the Ming dynasty, carve his way to the throne, so that between the two there is little hope for the restoration of order. Still the only possible course for China is to put back her legitimate sovereign, with the knowledge that his personal rule would at least be no worse than the present.

THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

(Daily Press, 15th February.)

On resuming command of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, Lieut.-Colonel Sir J. W. CARRINGTON, C.M.G., is naturally much gratified at the great increase in the numbers and efficiency of the Corps which has taken place during his absence. We take it that the present is an opportune time to again mention suggestions which, if carried out, would undoubtedly lead to a still further increase in numbers and efficiency.

First and foremost is the need for a Volunteer Rifle Range easy of access. Since the revived interest in the Corps set in a great many members have joined the Rifle Association, the latter kindly going out of their way to facilitate this, as the year was drawing to a close at the time, by admitting them at a much reduced figure. For several months past the range and file have fully availed themselves of the Kowloon Range, but its out-of-the-way situation, and the fact that the great accession of members makes it frequently inconveniently crowded, is much felt, and, therefore, a range on this side of the water would be much appreciated. We understand that a site behind the Polo Ground, at Causeway Bay, has already been chosen, and it was at one time anticipated that it would be completed by the beginning of the present year, but we are not aware that a start has yet been made. The importance of good shooting has always been recognised, but it needed the South African War to drive it home, and no doubt more attention will be given to this matter in the future than heretofore. We feel sure the popular Commandant will do all in his power to push forward this long-felt want. The members of the Corps purchase their own ammunition, and are willing to devote the time necessary for practice, and the least the Government can do is to remove every obstacle in the way of their becoming as efficient as possible in the use of firearms.

There is another point in which the Corps is at a disadvantage, and that is the want of a permanent Drill Instructor. Singapore, Shanghai, and other similar organisations are provided for in this respect, and why should Hongkong be lacking? When the numbers were small perhaps it did not matter much, especially as the Corps has been fortunate enough to

secure as instructors men from the Garrison who have not only been up to the mark in their work but have gained the goodwill of the men—a not unimportant consideration. At the same time, no one will deny that at the present juncture a permanent instructor would be a great acquisition. Sergeant J. MILLIGAN, master gunner of the Royal Artillery, is the beau ideal of a drill instructor, and, seeing that his time will expire shortly, the powers that be could not do better than retain his services. A more popular appointment among the men could not be made, while at the same time it would be difficult to find anyone whose abilities better qualify him for the post.

Another suggestion which has been thrown out more than once is that the Volunteer Institute is not by a long way utilized as much as it might be for the purposes of recreation and social intercourse. Hongkong is sadly deficient in the means whereby the young men of the colony can pass away an odd hour rationally, and the Volunteer Institute could be made to remedy this defect to a certain extent, and at the same time enormously increase the interest in the Corps. By the addition of another storey the present premises could be made into a capital club, but even if no extension were made there is plenty of room for a billiard table in the Institute, and this would undoubtedly prove a great boon to all the members of the Corps. If the matter were properly taken up there should be no great difficulty experienced in getting the wherewithal.

His Excellency the GUYENOR and others, when addressing the Volunteers, invariably impress upon them the importance of making themselves as efficient as possible, pointing out that inefficient men are a source of weakness to the Corps, and are, in fact, worse than useless. All this is very true, but it would come with much greater force if the men were provided with every facility for making themselves efficient, and if the authorities took care that they had no excuse for not bringing themselves up to the mark.

A YEAR'S WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES.

(Daily Press, 14th February.)

Just a year ago Manila was shaken to its very foundations by the fierce outbreak of the Filipino insurrection. Long expected by many residents, yet surprising and astounding to the masses, it threw the entire city into consternation by its sudden and obstinate fury. Everyone feared an uprising among thousands of natives living and employed in the city, and it was only due to the rapid and effective demonstrations of the provost guard and district police that order was preserved. Even with the utmost precautions, brought to perfection by the experience of days and nights of the heaviest strain, there were numerous shootings and small risings, while individual attacks occurred all over town. The next day, Sunday, the bloodiest battle of the whole insurrection waged for hours, on a fighting line of more than ten miles clear around the suburbs. The Filipinos were beaten at every point, and if the victory could have been followed up the trouble would have been over in six weeks, but troops were wanting and transportation was an unknown element. Heavy entrenchments were placed around all camps, and there the Americans sat and waited until troops and animals and munitions of war slowly worked across the 8,000 miles of sea during the weary months through which the war dragged on. Towns

were taken, abandoned, retaken and again abandoned and every time at the cost of life and property. Advances were made from time to time as the increase of troops allowed, and then up went the trenches again for weeks of waiting. Ports were blockaded, trade naturally languished and disappeared altogether. Prices rose, food began to be imported from Hongkong and Singapore, and local merchants of foodstuffs waxed fat. The large firms have been the real losers, for inter-island communication was suspended. Philippine business men should be fairly versed in the advantages of laying aside capital for rainy days, but this "day" has been probably the cloudiest in the turbulent weather that seems peculiar to the Archipelago. However, these things are beginning to be old stories now. The three months of October, November and December saw the most astonishing activity on the part of the American troops, and the Filipino army of North Luzon was driven from place to place until the leaders were left without commands and Aguinaldo escaped as a fugitive into the mountains, with scarcely enough men to equal the number of his former servants.

General Otis, as the head of affairs, astonished the world with the performances of his troops. Men fought through the mountains and jungle where Spaniards had never penetrated in all their years of occupation. Boots gave out, rations were unheard of, and yet they plodded on, living on rice and fruits. At one time in a whole battalion there were just three pairs of boots; men looked more like savages than soldiers, and many wore nothing more than hats, cartridge belts and a thigh cloth or breech cloth.

To-day civil governments are operating in over one hundred towns, ports have been opened in all the provinces, and military patrols are being formed to insure the public peace. The south is yet unsettled, but General Kable is rapidly garrisoning the towns of the hemp districts and prospects are good for shipper and grower alike. Jolo and Mindanao are gradually coming into line and trade is everywhere improving. Recent orders have opened Manila and vicinity to the free traffic of the natives, and it is hoped that better markets and prices will result.

The entire country is bound to be unsafe for a considerable time to come, for the dream of liberty is sweet and hard to forget; not only this, but, what is more important, there are several thousand rifles lying hidden about the provinces, and they may be used from time to time as opportunity offers. A large part of the population realizes that American rule promises much, and these people are endeavouring to get into the good graces of the Government.

In the natural course of events each year should see a great improvement in every condition of life and trade. It is only a matter of limited time, for the complete and permanent pacification of the Archipelago. There is one question, and one only, that can bring about a more disastrous and terrible experience than that which has just been felt, and that is the religious contention. The matter is coming to a climax, and unless it be judiciously handled the future will have sad and awful events to record.

While the *Huengshan* was coaling on Friday one of the coal boats alongside was frequently driven against a fender protecting the side of the vessel, the water being rather rough. A very heavy lurch broke the rope by which the fender was suspended, and a log of wood fell on to one of the coolies and injured him so seriously that he died shortly afterwards.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

On Monday the great dramatic event of the season will be upon us, when the curtain will run up to disclose the first performance of the "Yeoman of the Guard." The show is being anxiously awaited for, and as the management promise six performances there is apparently no question as to its success. From the programme already circulated the chorus is one of the strongest yet secured and the energy of the popular musical director can go a long way to make rough places plain. The piece is one of Mr. Arthur Sullivan's best, and the music is very attractive. The leaders, judging from the rehearsals, seem to know their parts very well, and have proved their ability in past theatricals. Therefore we poor outlanders who have neither the ability to act nor the voice to sing look forward to a bright and enjoyable entertainment, and promise a bumper house.

There is no doubt that the Jockey Club has done a very unpopular thing in increasing the charge of admission to the races. It is all very well to adopt measures that point to exclusiveness if you are under no obligations and have the wherewithal to keep them up. But exclusiveness is a selfish policy and rightly finds no public support. The Race Meeting is more or less a public institution, and has been made so by the support of the public in the past, both by contributions in admission fees and in the general interest displayed in the many meetings. All the public are not in the affluent positions they would wish to be, and it is bad enough to have necessities such as house-rent jumping up periodically 100 per cent without one's occasional luxuries doing likewise. The Race Club owes a duty to the public as well as to its own exchequer, and a reversion to the old price of admission would commend itself to many, even to those who are able to pay the enhanced fee. The difference in revenue caused by the "anti-gambling crusade among the heathens" might be recuperated in other ways. The race-meetings are events which help to make life liveable in Hongkong, are public institutions in fact, and every possible facility should be provided for everybody to witness them in comfort and enjoyment.

Discussing horse-racing as an institution, may I be excused for quoting an eulogy of the late Duke of Westminster, who was one of England's first racing men. The races here are of course not frequented with the many evils that attend a meeting at home, though there may be some difference of opinion as to the principle of gambling. The reference made by that popular and broad-minded clergyman, the Bishop of Chester, to the position of the late Duke, might be modestly applied to the recent action of the Race Club here in suppressing the many evils attending native gambling.

In the course of a sermon, the Bishop of Chester said there might have been differences of opinion respecting the Duke's conspicuous patronage of horse-racing, with its mean and pernicious multitude of attendant evils, but of one thing they might be absolutely certain, that in this matter, and in other matters as to which thoughtful persons were divided in judgment, the Duke acted conscientiously and under the firm conviction that the policy he pursued was on the whole the wisest and the best. He was by no means blind to the evils, the curses, which haunted the racecourse. They knew how readily he contemned and supported every judicious effort to reform; how, for example, it was largely to his influential co-operation with Dean Howson and other public-spirited citizens that Chester during the race week became less the pandemonium it had been. Some of them would have been glad if he had seen his way to condemn even more decisively the ruinous vices of betting and gambling, but the point to understand and remember was that the Duke, with full knowledge of the subject in all its bearings, upheld and cultivated horse-racing not merely or chiefly because he delighted and excelled in it, but because he honestly believed it to be in itself a noble sport, which the nation could not and would not afford to part with, a sport which ought to be elevated, not abolished. Some years ago the topic of racing was dis-

cussed among the Leeds clergy, and, taking the Duke as the most conspicuous racing man of the best type, he (the Bishop) raised the question whether it would be right to advise the Duke to withdraw his wholesome and honourable patronage from the sport and leave it to go unchecked to deeper degradation in its own way. The general conclusion was that, if they could, none of them would undertake the responsibility of counselling withdrawal.

It will perhaps interest our local volunteer artillery to know that a long and very valuable discussion has been going on in the *Times* and by the last mail appeared in particular two well-inspired letters, one signed "Ignotus," one "Ubique," which ought to be read by every one who desires to understand the facts. They are such as have pointed out more than once—that it is a complete delusion to suppose that our field artillery has been "out-classed" or "out-ranged" by the Boer field artillery. What has happened has been that Sir George White's army, intended for manœuvring in the open country, has been caught and enclosed within an open town not designed for the work of a fortress, not there fore armed with heavy guns for the purpose of defence, and that under those circumstances taking advantage of the unbroken railway behind it, the Boer Army has been able to drag up into position the kind of guns that would be used in a regular siege. It is impossible to obtain field guns that shall be sufficiently mobile for the work required of them in assisting to defeat an army in the field, and that they shall at the same time be heavy enough to meet the kind of weapons that are used in regular siege work. Despite such occasional disasters as have just been reported from Ladysmith, where a shell, falling upon an officers' mess-house, killed one and severely wounded several other officers, the Boer artillery has been generally very ineffective.

A party, two of whom were high officials of a great Continental Power, returned a few days since from an excursion as far as Wuchow and relate some rather exciting experiences, one of which was a threatened attack by pirates. Unfortunately the rapidity with which the call to arms was responded to and the guns manned caused the pirate fleet to beat a hasty retreat. I say unfortunately, because had fight been shown it would probably have resulted in one of two consummations devoutly to be wished; the return of the foreigners to Canton and Hongkong with the pirates hanging to the yard-arm, that is supposing their vessel had a yard-arm, and for the wounding of one of the aforesaid high officials, the consequent opening in reality of the West River. No doubt, as in duty bound, they would have been ready to have died for their country, but a slight flesh wound would have been sufficient, and the trade of Hongkong, which is open to their countrymen as it is to British subjects, would have had a great spurt and permanent augmentation which it will never have while the British Foreign Office is under the thumb of "the great I.G."

During the course of the voyage our friends met one of the British gunboats which are patrolling the West River to search for pirates, and, should they meet any, to report to the Admiral and probably to the Commissioner of Customs, who, in their turn, are to report to London and Peking, and through whom after due enquiries have been made and answered by telegraph and post, instructions will be conveyed to the commander of the gunboat as to whether he is to attack the pirate or not. As becomes friendly nations meeting in foreign waters the flag would have been dipped, but for the fact that the commander of the Continental craft had nullified his colours to the mast. This was unfortunate, but we forgive it, because it indicates the spirit that we Britishers claim for ourselves and like to see in others. It proves that while we have a big navy and a small army, and our Continental cousins a big army and a small navy, their little navy, like a little British army, goes a damn long way.

I almost forgot to mention another catastrophe which befell the party. They took turns

at night watch, and one of them before going to sleep, while he was supposed to be on this duty, drank, unbeknown to himself of course, all the whisky that was left on board.

OBSERVER.

"THE YEOMAN OF THE GUARD, OR THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID."

BY W. S. GILBERT AND ARTHUR SULLIVAN.

Sir Richard Cholmondeley (Lieut. of the Tower) M. C. H. Hay.
Colonel Fairfax (under sentence of death) M. G. P. Lammert.
Sergeant Meryll (of the Yeomen of the Guard) Mr. C. H. Grace.
Leonard Meryll (his son) Mr. C. H. Lammert.
Jeck Point (a strolling jester) Mr. G. H. Sexton.
Wilfred Shadbolt (Head jailor and assistant Torturer) Viscount Suidale.
The Headsman Mr. A. Stewart.
First Yeoman Mr. H. A. Lammert.
Second Yeoman Dr. J. A. Lowson.
Third Yeoman Mr. W. Armstrong.
First Citizen Mr. F. P. Harrold.
Second Citizen Mr. J. J. O'Neill, R.N.
Elsie Maynard (a strolling singer) Mrs. W. W. Campbell.
Phoebe Meryll (Sergeant Meryll's daughter) Mrs. Badeley.
Dame Arruthers (house-keeper at the tower) Mrs. Ross.
Kate (her Niece) Mrs. Lowson.
"YEOMEN OF THE GUARD."
Mr. J. Aitken, R.N., Capt. P. G. Anderson, H.K.R., Mr. W. Armstrong, Lieut. A. L. Barrett, H.K.R., Mr. A. Chapman, Mr. J. Cumming, Mr. E. C. Emmett, Mr. L. Glissmann, Mr. E. E. Hill, Mr. H. A. Lammert, Dr. J. A. Lowson, Mr. E. Mirrow, Lieut. A. C. Stevens, R.E. Mr. C. Westerburger.

CHORUS.

Mesdames A. d'Almeida e Castro, M. d'Almeida e Castro, Bain, Borrett, Brewitt, Clark, Grace, Hagen, Hazeland, Hauca, Henderson, King, Lowson, Mitchell, Parker, Pearson, Skertchley and Stopani.
Messrs. J. Dauby, F. P. Harrold, C. Hance, J. Hance, R. Henderson, B. G. Huygen, A. H. Hollingsworth, E. Hazeland, Major Johnstone, R. M. L. Lammert, J. J. O'Neill, R.N., Painter, R.E., A. Read, R.N., Sayer, W. Stopani, H. S. Vaughan, R.N., and J. Wicke.

Act I.—Tower green.

Act II.—The same at night.

Musical Director Mr. A. G. Ward.
Acting Manager Mr. H. C. Nicolle.
Stage Manager Mr. E. W. Mitchell.
Assistant Manager Mr. J. F. A. Hastings, R.N.
The entirely New Scenery by Mr. H. W. Bird and Assistants.

Incidental Dances arranged by Mr. G. H. Sexton.

ORCHESTRA.

1st violins, Messrs C. Schroter, Sydney, C. Xavier, and Band Sergeant Adams, R.W.F.; 2nd violins, Messrs J. M. S. Ozario, Corporal Hunt, R.W.F., and Bandsman Thompson, R.W.F.; violas, Sipper Wilmshurst, R.E., and Bandsman Thompson, R.W.F.; Cellos, Mr. Koenig and Corporal Eynott, R.W.F.; basses, Dr. Swan and Bandsman Gregory, R.W.F.; flute, Mr. J. D. Osmond, clarionets, Corporal White, R.W.F., and Bandsman McGuirk and Watson, R.W.F.; bassoons, Bandsman Howarth and Brunt, R.W.F.; horns, Bandsman Tugwell and Walter, R.W.F.; cornets, Corporal Glanville, R.W.F., and Bandsman Hogg, R.W.F.; euphonium, Bandsman Morris, R.W.F.; drum and triangle Bandsman J. yer, R.W.F.

Conductor Mr. A. G. Ward.

The Bandsman of the R. W. F. by kind permission of the Colonel and officers of that Regiment.

"Coming events" the local bill poster persuaded us, "cast their shadows before" but the vigorous flesh and blood realities constituting the yeomen in Monday night's performance were not exactly shadows. The much-anticipated performance has been given and the members of the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club may worthily congratulate themselves on having

scored another success. The season opened exceedingly well, the "Magistrate" being a harbinger of better things to follow. "The Mother-in-law" was not perhaps up to the standard of the former, but the "Yeoman of the Guard" is worthy of the united efforts of the members of the A.D.C., and will take a leading rank among its successes.

The piece was well-chosen and came as a pleasing diversion from the two previous comedies. From a scenic point of view, having careful regard to the capabilities of the local stage, which may be well described as being "narrow, cribbed and confined," the selection could not have been better. There is only one scene, supposed to be viewed in the daytime and at night, and the introduction of incandescent lamps, fixed with an immense amount of trouble, provided the necessary "luminous rays of the moon." The single scene enabled the scenic artist to turn out a very good representation of his subject, bearing in mind the scene as it was depicted at home. It was excellently portrayed and was seen best from the left-hand side of the house looking towards Beauchamp Tower. It enabled every inch of space to be used to the fullest advantage without the necessity of removing anything in the interval between the acts.

The music was also well within the powers of the chorus, and it was probably the strongest chorus that has been heard in late performances in Hongkong. It may be interesting to know that there were no less than sixty-two persons on the stage taking part in the performance. The vocal music was on the whole well rendered, the attacks being sharp, the baton of the musical director being fairly well observed, and the singing being brisk and marked with an appreciated absence of any dragging. The parts were well balanced, the voices blending creditably, though now and again some harshness is prominent and some of the Yeomen are not as correct in their notes as they might be. These defects should wear off after one or two performances, if a little more attention be paid to the coaching of the conductor—who as a rule has the least-envied task of any in an amateur performance.

The orchestra was amply sufficient for the needs of the piece, contributing much to its success, and thanks to the customary courtesy of the officers and the willingness of the men, a number of the Bandsmen from the Royal Welsh Fusiliers rendered valuable assistance.

There being no change of scene, consequently there is but one opportunity for spectacular display, yet the combination of colours is very effectively arranged. The bright scarlet costumes of the Yeomen of the Guard harmonise well with the pale colours of the ladies' costumes and the sombre grey background. The ladies' dresses are very neat and pretty and are made in accordance with the dresses of the period. The scene admits of little possibility of a silken-costume display, the ladies being attired in sober cloth, in which it is generally conceded they look charming.

With regard to the dramatic position of the representation, notwithstanding some obvious drawbacks being perceptible a local performance has seldom gone better, and it may be here necessary to state something concerning it and the plot involved. The "Yeoman of the Guard" was written by Mr. W. S. Gilbert and set to music by Sir Arthur Sullivan, being produced in 1888, running for a period of fifteen months. It is the first time it has been played in Hongkong, and was very successfully produced at Shanghai a season or two ago. The plot is short and simple. Colonel Fairfax, a political prisoner, is confined in the Tower, and is about to be executed. Sgt. Meryll, one of his former followers, and his daughter determine to rescue the Colonel from his impending fate, which they successfully accomplish, Phoebe extracting the keys of the Colonel's cell from the belt of her guesome adorer, Shadbolt, whilst making love to him. Colonel Fairfax escapes from his cell to enter the ranks of the Yeomen of the Guard, disguised as the Sergeant's son. Matters however are somewhat complicated by the Colonel having gratified a whim and married a strolling player, Elsie Maynard, just before the time fixed for his execution. Finally, when Phoebe, through jealousy, divulges unconsciously the Colonel's secret to Shadbolt, a reprieve arrives and the Colonel becomes a free man, and the

curtain falls on his marriage to *Elsie* and the death of *Jack Point*.

The opening of the first act introduced *Phoebe* and *Shadbolt* "the jailor and assistant tormentor," and the piece from the start received a good impetus, because these were certainly two of the best-sustained characters in the piece. Mrs. Badeley as the Sergeant's daughter displayed much dramatic ability, and above all she is to be specially commended for having so well observed what many amateurs are apt to neglect, the necessity of reciting her lines clearly and distinctly. From first to last her enunciation in recitative or song was excellent, and she was heard distinctly all over the house. The same applies to *Shadbolt*, though blessed with a voice that the demon jailer possesses, the task was not so great. The opening chorus was one of the best rendered in the piece, and the solo "As in days of long ago," was well sung by Mrs. Badeley and was received with loud applause. As *Dame Carruthers*, Mrs. Ross has not much of a part, but she made the most of it, and was undoubtedly the leading vocalist of the evening. Her solo "The screw may twist" with the chorus of the Yeomen, received well deserved applause, and the same may be said of the Lieutenant's solo by Mr. C. H. Hay. This is another part to which not so much work is given, but Mr. Hay's efforts were appreciated, and the Lieutenant is a very necessary individual in the piece.

There are two characters on which the humour of the play depends that of *Shadbolt* and *Jack Point*, though the end of the latter's career is the reverse of humorous. They are characters the success of which depend on the ability of the performers who represent them. Among amateurs both are too frequently exaggerated, and that defect was not absent from the representation last evening. Yet humour in a man of *Shadbolt*'s stamp certainly appears an exaggeration, as moroseness does in that of *Jack Point*. Mr. G. H. Sexton's performance was worthy of much praise and he had evidently spared no pains to make his part a success. His dancing was very good—if novel, and the scene between him and *Shadbolt* was one of the best in the performance, because its real success depended so much on the efforts of the two performers. Mr. Sexton was repeatedly applauded; so was Viscount Suidale, and the approbation of the audience was well merited. As *Elsie Maynard*, Mrs. Campbell was very pleasing, and her part was well sustained. Her singing was not so robust as the character required, though strength of voice is not always desirable unless it be placed well under control, a necessity which the male chorus might do well to occasionally remember. Her notes were clear, and strong in the upper register, and her solos, particularly "Tis done, I am a bride," were much appreciated. Mr. C. H. Grace as *Sergeant Meryll* was excellent, and Mr. G. P. Lammert as *Colonel Fairfax* had much work to do and did it to everyone's satisfaction. The trios and quartettes between the principals were very well rendered without exception, and the quartette "Pretty maid of seventeen" was especially good. In this Mrs. Lowson was heard to much advantage, taking the soprano part.

The scene between *Phoebe* and *Shadbolt*, with her song "Were I thy bride," was a great success, and Mrs. Badeley received an ovation. The Yeomen's chorus of welcome to young *Meryll*, and *Jack Point*'s solo "I have a song to sing, oh," *Shadbolt*'s "From morn till afternoon," were striking vocal features, excellent truly in themselves, and were well given by those who sang them. There were many demands for re-calls during the evening which were deserved, but owing to the length of the programme were not responded to. There were no doubt many deficiencies in the play if it were necessary to introduce comparisons, but as some of the obvious defects are probably known to those responsible, the subsequent performances will be even more successful than the first. The amateurs deserve the hearty encouragement of all residents.

In conclusion great praise is due to the management, without whose assiduous labour success would have been impossible. The duties of the management "on the stage and off" have to be known to be fully appreciated, likewise those of the musical director, Mr. W. H. Bird and his assistants are also to be congratulated for the really pretty scene, and to Mr.

Sexton is due the arrangement of the charming incidental dances, (and *sub-rosa* the sketch of the somewhat phlegmatic old Yeoman with the wooden sword on the programme cover. The dances were better!) The cost of the production of the piece has been heavy, but the committee hope to cover all expenses if a full house like last night's audience attend each of the remaining performances.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

A CHARACTERISTIC LETTER.

[The following letter was received by post yesterday, bearing the Canton postmark. Although the intention of the authors need not be taken very seriously yet it is indicative of the feeling that widely prevails in South China against the Empress-Dowager and her advisers. For this reason we have departed from our usual rule of not accepting correspondence without the writer's name.—ED.]

Canton, China, 9th February, 1900.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HONGKONG
"DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—A great revolution is brewing in China for the overthrow of the usurping Manchus. The seeds of rebellion have been sown broadcast and are already bearing fruit. Favourable responses have been received from the Provinces, and from nearly all the Foreign Countries wherein our brethren dwell.

The year 1900 and the succeeding years will witness a great change in China, a change which with God's help we trust will be welcome to the Foreign Powers, and beneficial to the vast and increasing trade of the Orient.

We are human and confess that the beginning will not be without its troubles and disappointments. We are a nation of 400,000,000, raw in certain respects, but in judging us it must be remembered that iron ore can be smelted and then welded into polished tempered steel.

Our leaders have been educated and trained abroad, and we have the sympathy and support of numerous influential friends in England, America and Japan.

Since the usurpation of the Manchus the whole nation, led by its blind guides has sunk deeper and deeper into the quagmire of corruption. To gratify her whims the ignorant and arrogant Empress Dowager has brought our Ancient Empire to the very verge of ruin, and the disposition of Kwang Su emphasizes the personal and sinister influence of this wicked woman.

In justice to the Manchus and their supporters should the Empire submit being dictated to by a woman bad in every respect personally, as well as politically, or should it once for all determine to get rid of the scum which has gathered over and infected the whole body politic?

We have been organizing and waiting for the last two hundred and thirty years.

We gave the young Emperor Kwang Su a chance, believing that great things were in store for our people, but heaven has told us through the actions of the Empress Dowager that the Manchus are doomed to destruction.

Since the Manchus are determined to keep us enslaved instead of raising us from the mire of close on three centuries of corruption and misrule, we have sworn to uproot them root and branch in obedience to the Sacred Call of Heaven.

We are alive to the fact that China as represented by the present corrupt and rotten Government is a sore and an obstruction in the path of civilization and progress.

Consequently it will be our duty to remove this sore, and when the struggle has commenced, we trust Great Britain, the United States and Japan will stand by us, and lend a helping hand.

We are certain the great and chivalrous English speaking peoples, who are always imbued with a high sense of honour and justice, will be pleased to afford us their support in our struggle for liberty, freedom and reform.

We also take this opportunity of soliciting the help and friendly co-operation of the British, American, and Japanese Press, which we trust will not be in vain.

The payment of all existing national loans will be guaranteed, and the "Open Door" policy inaugurated by Great Britain and supported

by the United States and Japan will be gladly welcomed by us.

We shall be glad to welcome any of our friends who may be anxious for active service, and will communicate with them when expedient.

Thanking you for the insertion of this in your valuable paper.—Yours truly,

LIBERTY, FREEDOM, AND REFORM.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 15th inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.).

HIS EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Hon. A. W. BREWSTER.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils.)

A NEW MEMBER.

The oath was administered to Mr. A. W. BREWSTER on his taking his seat as a member of the Council.

FINANCE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid upon the table the Financial Minutes (No. 1 to 6) and proposed that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was carried.

PAPERS.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table "Protest by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead against 'The Summoning of Chinese Ordinances' (No. 40 of 1899) and the Colonial Secretary's Memorandum thereon." "Despatches Relative to the Salaries of Officers in the Government Service." "Report of the Director of the Observatory for 1899." "Secretary of State's Dispatch on the subject of short-period Leases of Crown Lands." "Papers on the subject of the Jubilee Road round the Island." "Report of the Po Leung Kuk Society for the year ending 31st December 1899."

THE PROTEST AGAINST "THE SUMMONING OF CHINESE ORDINANCES."

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I rise to a point of order concerning a "Protest by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead against 'the Summoning of Chinese Ordinances' (No. 40 of 1899) and the Colonial Secretary's memorandum thereon." I presume that the memorandum has been laid on the table under section 32, of the Standing Orders in Council, the hon. member not being present at the discussion to raise any objections.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—It is perhaps best to state that the papers were laid upon the table at my initiative and motion in the matter.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—In this question I think the hon. member is right. The position appears to me to be this, that the hon. member being too late for the discussion of the Bill in Council, as it was passed, he sent in a protest to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary. The Colonial Secretary suggested and I think he was right, that that protest should be laid upon the table for the information of the Council. I think it is very clear that it should be so, otherwise a very long protest would go forward to the Secretary of State about this Bill which would never have been seen by the Council at all. I think on the whole, that the paper is laid on the table for the information of the Council, and I question whether it is desirable to raise any discussion on the subject.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I do not wish to raise a discussion on the papers, Your Excellency, but I should like to make an explanation as the representative of the Chinese.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I am sure the council will have no objection to hear any explanation you may care to make as the representative of the Chinese.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I do not wish to raise any discussion or pass any remark on the protest at all, except to say that I had not seen the protest before it was sent in a copy was sent to me, I think, on Friday afternoon, by the hon'ble member for the Chamber of Commerce. It is also a known fact that since the passing of the Ordinance, and both before and up to the present moment I have not received any protest from the Chinese community whom I represent on this council. And I think in this I am supported by my Chinese colleague, who has not seen the protest. Lastly, the hon'ble member for the Chamber of Commerce, in putting in this protest has not mentioned whether he protests on behalf of the Chinese community or as their representative on the Chamber of Commerce. I should like to know what section of the Chinese community he represents. Of course he has a perfect right to put in his protest, but as it affects solely the Chinese, my colleague and I, as representing the Chinese on this Council, would have expected the hon'ble member to have consulted with us before doing so.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I be permitted to state that I made the protest as a member of this honourable Council and that quite a number of leading and substantial Chinese appealed to me in the matter. I went into the subject, and deemed it my duty to make the protest in question, which speaks for itself.

The matter then dropped.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS laid upon the table reports of the proceedings of the Public Works Committee.

THE COLLECTION OF SHELLS.

The Hon'ble T. H. WHITEHEAD—I rise to ask. (1.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay upon the table a copy of the general instructions received from the Secretary of State under which Crown Leases were granted to the Lee Hing Company for the dredging and collection of shells in and around Ping Chau Island in the New Territory as stated by him in Council on 14th December last, and a copy of the said leases?

COOLIES' SHELTER.

(2.) Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council of the cause of the prolonged delay in constructing the shelter for the Chinese coolies at Victoria Gap—the upper terminus of the Peak Tramway, and whether this urgently needed work cannot be proceeded with without further delay?

JUBILEE ROAD.

(3.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay on the table a copy of the correspondence which has passed since May, 1899, between the Colonial Office and the Hongkong Government, also a copy of the letter, dated 15th September last, from the Jubilee Committee here to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and a copy of the letter's reply thereto, in connection with the road proposed in 1897, to be constructed round the Island to commemorate the 60th year's reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In answer to the first question, a copy of the general instructions referred to are laid on the table.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—In reply to question 2 of the hon'ble member, a vote for the estimated cost of this work will be submitted to-day for the consideration of the Finance Committee. If this vote is passed by the Council, the work will be taken in hand without delay. The work has been delayed owing to the number of other urgent works which had to take precedence of it.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the third question the correspondence asked for is laid on the table. No reply has yet been received from the Secretary of State to the letter of the Jubilee Committee of the 15th September.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—In regard to the first question I asked that a copy of the lease in question should be furnished to the Council. That apparently has been omitted.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I do not see anything in the question about a copy of the lease. The question asks for a copy of the general instructions. The hon'ble member can however see a copy of the lease.

THE COLONY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN RELIEF FUND.

A VOTE OF \$50,000.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I rise to move that the orders of the day be set aside, and

"That this Council devote the sum of \$50,000 as a contribution towards the South African War Fund at present being raised by the Lord Mayor of London, and that the distribution and allocation of the said sum be left wholly to the discretion of the administrators of the fund."

I think, sir, that this motion will receive the cordial support of the hon'ble members of the Council, inasmuch I believe that the original suggestion that some such vote might be asked for in this Council emanated from the senior unofficial member, who has I believed consulted with his colleagues. I am sure that this vote will be endorsed by the community, who have already so generously subscribed to one of the special funds—to the Sailors and Soldiers Fund, which is also under the care of the Lord Mayor. (Hear, hear)

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

The Hon. C. J. CHATER, C.M.G.—I have much pleasure in supporting the resolution, and in doing so, I may state that at a time like this when our gallant troops are freely shedding their blood, and when half the families of the United Kingdom and members of those in the Colonies are sending out some representative to take part in the struggle for supremacy in South Africa, Hongkong must not be backward in sending assistance. Its little quota of volunteers freely offered was not needed, it is true, but we can and we will contribute of our substance in helping the families of those who are fighting out our cause on the African veldt. This vote, as the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary has said, will have the cordial approval of my unofficial colleagues and I am sure such will be endorsed by the official members of Council, and by the whole community. (Applause.)

The Hon'ble Dr. Ho Kai—I beg to support the vote which has been proposed and seconded. At the present emergency in South Africa I think it is quite right that we should do something to show our actual sympathy and practical support. This vote will show the British Government that we in Hongkong are not behind in expressing our feelings in this substantial way. I am glad to be able to say that not only the British but the Anglo-Chinese community of this colony are well to the front in giving practical expression to their sympathy. Therefore I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution. (Applause.)

The Hon'ble E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.—The suggestion my colleague and senior unofficial member of the Council has made is one that will find general approbation in this colony. What he proposes this colony should do has been done in the Straits Settlements, and I am of opinion that though the contribution is a large one the colony can afford it. If the money is to be fairly distributed I fear it will all be needed. The difficulties in the path of our brave soldiers are so exceedingly great, owing to the formation of the country and the mobile character of the enemy's forces, enabling them to move with great rapidity and occupy strategic positions that we have only too much reason to believe that thousands of valuable lives will be sacrificed before peace is attained. Seeing this to be the prospect it behoves us to encourage our soldiers and to stimulate others to join the ranks, and show that the nation in the event of the father falling in the discharge of his duty to his country we will at once protect his wife and little ones. At any rate I am sure of this that the thought that the dear ones at home will be safely provided for will lift a load from the minds of the sick and dying soldier. Therefore I have great pleasure in supporting this motion.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—There are two motions before the Council. The first is that the Orders of the Day be set aside to allow of the second motion being put.

This was agreed to.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Now with regard to the motion that you have heard read I think it only fair that the public should know that the generosity of the unofficial members representing various sections of this community has gone even beyond the handsome vote of \$50,000. The first proposal made to me by the senior unofficial member, with I believe the concurrence of his colleagues, was that this Council should vote a sum equal to the entire sum subscribed by the colony for this purpose. That sum, as you are aware, has reached \$98,000. Still I need hardly say I was obliged to ask for the concurrence of the Secretary of State in this matter, and on thinking it over I came to the conclusion that this vote of \$50,000 would be very handsome indeed. I suggested that to the Secretary of State, who however, authorised a vote of \$30,000. I replied that the unofficial members of this Council would be very much disappointed if they were not permitted to vote \$50,000, to which the Secretary of State then gave his authority. I think it well that he public should know that the unofficial members of this Council did not limit their generosity to the very munificent amount now to be voted but were quite prepared to vote a sum equal to that provided by all sections of the British and Chinese communities of this Colony. You will understand that the amount of money subscribed by the colony up to the present has been devoted exclusively to one fund—the Soldiers and Sailors' Families' Association branch of the Relief Fund. The Lord Mayor has pointed out that there are other funds. That particular fund has been very well looked after in England and elsewhere, and there are other funds which equally call for assistance. He suggests in case of further contributions which may be sent that it should be left to the discretion of the Lord Mayor to devote it to any particular fund that seems in most need of assistance. Therefore it will be left to the discretion of the Lord Mayor and his Committee to devote the money to what purpose he thinks necessary. (Applause.)

The motion was then carried unanimously.

The Council then returned to the Orders of the Day.

POST OFFICE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Post Office Ordinance, 1887 was passed.

NATURALISATION.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Naturalization of Wan Kam Tsun, alias Wan Tsing Kai, alias Wan Ming Kap, which was passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE AMENDMENT. The Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend The Public Health Ordinance, 1887, on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL was read a first time.

IMPOSITION OF FEES BILL.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the imposition of fees for the issue by the Government of Hongkong of certain certificates to certain Chinese, on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL was read a first time.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL BILL.

The first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the establishment of a Hospital for infectious diseases in connection with the Tung Wah Hospital, was passed on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

This being all the business the Council adjourned till the 1st of March.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding.

CHAIR SHELTER.

The CHAIRMAN—The first vote is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of four thousand and three hundred dollars (\$4,300) to meet the expenditure for the erection of a Chair Shelter at the Peak.

This was passed.

The CHAIRMAN—The next vote is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to re-vote the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in aid of the vote "Public Latrines."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS pointed out that this had apparently been duplicated in Financial Minute No. 4.

The minute was then withdrawn.

WORKS IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The CHAIRMAN—The next is that the Governor recommends the Council to re-vote the sum of eighteen thousand five hundred and twenty-five dollars and fifty-two cents (\$18,525.52) to cover the expenses incurred by the Public Works Department in connection with the works, &c., in the New Territory.

The above being the unexpended balance of the sum previously voted.

This was passed.

EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC WORKS.

The CHAIRMAN—The Governor recommends the Council to re-vote the following sums being unexpended balances of the votes for 1899 under the heading "Extraordinary Public Works:—

1—Public Works Department Store	\$ 4,064.86
2—Disinfectant Station, &c.	1,597.94
3—Public Latrines	5,000.00
4—City of Victoria, Water Works, &c.	19,637.26
5—Quarters for Gaol Staff	4,000.00
6—Electric Lighting Government House	685.50
7—Pokfulam Conduit Road	3,768.76

Total\$38,754.20

This was passed.

STORM WATER NULLAH.

The CHAIRMAN—The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of eight thousand and two hundred dollars (\$8,200) to meet the expenditure for extending the large storm-water nullah at Yau-mat, north of the Pumping Station.

This was carried.

THE NEW TERRITORY.

The CHAIRMAN—The money voted being insufficient this is now asked for. It does not exceed the original estimate. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) to cover expenses incurred in the New Territory for the current year.

This was passed, and concluded the business.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on the 15th inst., The President (Mr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) occupied the chair, and there were also present: Mr. F. J. Badeley (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. Fung Wa-chuen, Mr. J. McKie, Mr. Chan A Fuk, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Clark, (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

THE SANITARY IMPROVEMENT OF THE COLONY—THE PROPOSED TRUST CORPORATION.

The draft scheme for a Trust Corporation for the sanitary improvement of the city of Victoria, drawn up by a select committee of the Board appointed for that purpose on Thursday, Dec. 7th, was submitted. The report is dated February 7th, and is signed by Messrs. May, Osborne, and Clark. It runs as follows:—

"We have the honour to submit the enclosed draft scheme for the formation of a Trust Corporation to be charged with the duty, and invested with the power, of carrying on sanitary improvements in the City of Victoria in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Board at a meeting held on the 7th December, 1899, at which we were appointed a committee to consider recommendations for giving effect to the resolution.

"The scheme fully explains itself and does not appear to require comment at this stage from us.

"We would, however, remark that the formation of some such body, as the proposed trust seems to us to be becoming daily a greater necessity owing to the rapid growth of the colony and the consequently increasing duties

of the Public Works Department which appears to have more than enough to occupy its attention without undertaking the task of the sanitary improvement of the city."

(Enclosure.)

1.—The trust to consist of the Attorney General, the Director of Public Works, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, the Officer Commanding Royal Engineers, two members elected by the Chamber of Commerce from their body and two by the Justices of the Peace from their body, with three members, nominated by the Governor, who shall also appoint the president.

2.—The trust to be a corporate body and to have full power to contract, to borrow money on stock or debenture, to acquire land, and to sell and dispose of its property.

3.—In the powers of the trust should also be included provisions for regulating the appointment and election of members, the appointment of Committees and other executive details necessary for the full working of the trust.

4.—The duties and powers of the trust may be summarised as follows:

(i.) On a resolution of the Sanitary Board in ordinary public meeting, or on a representation from the Medical Officer of Health, or from twelve ratepayers that any district for the want of air, light, ventilation, or proper conveniences or any other sanitary defects, is in a state dangerous to the public health the Trust Corporation shall consider the case, and if satisfied with the truth of the representations made may pass a resolution that the area is unhealthy, and then proceed to prepare a scheme for its improvement, and for the formation of such streets, squares, and open spaces, and the construction of suitable buildings, and all other things as may be necessary for such improvement.

(ii.)—The procedure regarding the publication of notices to the persons affected by the works, the hearing of objections, the assessment of compensation for compulsory purchase, and the approval of the Legislative Council prior to the execution of the improvement, can be framed upon the provisions of the English Housing of the Working Classes Act and the Land Clauses Consolidation Acts relating to this procedure.

(iii.)—The trust may, with the sanction of the Legislative Council, construct such new streets as they may consider necessary for the improvement or development of the City, without the representation required under the preceding paragraph, and for that purpose may acquire any lands they may consider necessary for the purpose of such improvement or development.

On the completion of any new street together with its paving, lighting, metalling and drainage the trust shall make it over to the Government.

(iv.)—The trust may at their discretion carry out works for reclaiming from the sea any lands now within the flow of the sea made over to it by the Government.

5.—The following are the proposals for the endowment and revenue of the trust.

(i.)—The Government should contribute annually to the trust 5 per cent. of the rates collected and 25 per cent. of the premiums derived from land sales, in each year.

(ii.)—The Government to make over to the trust for a fixed period of 99 years such portion of the resumed area of Tai Ping Shan as has not been sold, so much of Tai Kok Tsui Bay as has not been sold, and half the available building area abutting on the south side of the Shauiwan Road between the eastern extremity of the Queen's Recreation Ground and Shauiwan Village, this latter area to be first laid out in blocks and each alternate block to be assigned to the trust.

The trust to reclaim, where it seems expedient, and lay out these areas in building sites, streets, and open spaces and may lease such sites for periods which may extend to 99 years.

The trust to enjoy the use of such property as is assigned to it free of charge for 10 years and thereafter the trust to pay interest at 4 per cent. per annum on the value at date of assignment of so much of the land as they are able to lease.

The trust to receive in full the rents of the lands assigned to, or reclaimed by them, and the

difference between these rents and the interest payable to Government to form part of the revenue of the trust.

No interest to be paid to Government on any portion of the trust estate which is utilised for the formation of streets, or which has been reserved for any public purpose, or which is required for open spaces.

On the expiration of 99 years from the date of acquirement by the trust the property so acquired to revert to the Government.

(3.) All assessments for rates for new building erected on trust land not before rated, and all enhanced assessments for rates for buildings assigned to or acquired by the trust by purchase or otherwise, to be paid by the Government to the trust.

6.—The following are the proposals for the settlement of disputes and compensation:—

A tribunal of appeal to be framed for the decision of all questions in dispute connected with the acquisition of land and property by the trust.

Mr. OSBORNE proposed that the scheme be reconsidered at the next meeting and that in the meantime it be laid on the table. He hoped that the newspapers would give publicity to it so that perhaps they might benefit by an expression of public opinion on the subject. The responsibilities involved in this scheme were very large, and as it had only been before the members during the last two or three days he thought it would be well to let it remain over for a fortnight.

Mr. McKie seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE CONDITION OF NO. 2 HEALTH DISTRICT.

The Select Committee (Messrs. May, Osborne, and McKie) reported on the 8th February that they had inspected portions of No. 2 Health District, Sanitary Inspector McKenzie accompanying them. The report concludes:—"We visited the Wanchai Market, which is in our opinion inadequate for the requirements of the population. Taken as a whole the district was not as clean as it should be. The district has the advantage of being largely composed of two-storied buildings, but as these buildings are old we fear they will soon be replaced by buildings of at least three storeys in height. We only noticed one latrine in the portion of the district traversed by us, and it was obviously much too small for the necessities of the dense population surrounding it. The whole district apparently wants lime-washing."

The Secretary minuted:—"This district is in course of being lime-washed although but slow progress is being made, as only 22 houses out of 1,500 have been done in five weeks."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"Report shows a most unsatisfactory state of things still."

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY proposed that a copy of the report be forwarded to the Government.

Mr. OSBORNE seconded, and the motion was carried.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, Messrs. Badeley, McKie, and Osborne were appointed a select committee.

RINDERPEST ON THE NEW TERRITORY.

The select committee appointed to enquire into the report of the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon as to rinderpest in the New Territory was submitted. The Committee approves of Mr. Ladds' suggestion as to preventive inoculation.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Dr. CLARK, it was decided to forward the report to Government, with the recommendation that the scheme proposed should be adopted.

THE CENTRAL MARKET.

Mr. Ladds (Colonial Veterinary Surgeon) submitted a proposal to alter certain stalls in the Central Market, and the proposal was adopted, on the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. McKie.

PLANS FOR DRAINAGE.

Papers were submitted suggesting 69 of Ordinance 15 of 1889 be altered so as to require separate plans for drainage to be supplied to the Sanitary Board.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY suggested that Mr. Drury be asked to endeavour to arrange the matter without altering the Ordinance.

It was decided to leave the matter in obedience for the present.

CHINESE CERTIFICATES.

Papers were submitted as to the increase to allowances for knowledge of Chinese.

The Secretary reported to the Colonial Secretary on the 23rd January as follows:—

"I have the honour by the direction of the Sanitary Board to point out that by C. S. O. 2,961 of 1895 it was sanctioned that the regulations governing the study of Chinese and the monetary reward granted for the possession of a certificate by the members of the police should be extended to the Inspectors of the Sanitary Department.

"Since that time certificates have been gained by inspectors in this department, and at the present time four are in possession of such certificates, namely; two of second and two of first certificates. It is, however, found that there is some cause which prevents the main body of the inspectors from acquiring a useful knowledge of Chinese and thus acts prejudicially against the value of their services in sanitary matters.

"The reason for this may be partially due to the comparatively small reward paid for the possession of a certificate, namely, \$2.50, \$5, and \$10, for a first, second or third respectively, and to revive this I am directed to recommend that as the police allowances have been doubled by C.S.O. 538 of 1899, so may the same privilege be extended to the inspectors of this department; to the present holders of certificates on the same terms as therein quoted for the police, namely, on passing a test examination and to all who may in future gain certificates.

"The rate on the estimates for this department is \$300, and the increase if granted will require an additional \$250 for the current year, namely, \$150 for certificates already joined and \$100 for prospective grants."

The four inspectors mentioned in the report are: J. Reidie (\$10), F. Fisher (\$10), H. J. Knight (\$2.5), and J. Hoggarth (\$2.50).

The Colonial Treasurer (the Hon. A. M. Thomson) reported (January 24th):—"I think the allowances should be the same as in the police, but doubt whether the officers who have not taken up or passed in Chinese are influenced altogether by the amounts. Incapacity and disinclination to study would account for a number of them.

The Colonial Secretary (the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart) wrote (January 25th):—"I agree with the Treasurer, and, speaking from my previous experience, I doubt whether the increase in pay will lead to many more inspectors being able to speak Chinese. I shall be agreeably surprised if it does.

THE REPORTED OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE IN MANILA.

Correspondence re bubonic plague in Manila was submitted.

Answering an enquiry made by the Secretary on behalf of the Sanitary Board, Consul-General Wildman wrote on the 27th January:—"I wrote yesterday to His Excellency Major-General Otis asking for detailed information regarding the newspaper reports that bubonic plague had broken out in Manila, and that information he transmitted to this office for the benefit of the Colonial Government. I have no official information that leads me to believe that plague has broken out in Manila."

Mr. Harford, H. B. M. Consul at Manila, wrote to H. E. the Governor on the 25th January:—"I have the honour to report that cases of bubonic plague have opened lately in Manila, the majority of them ending fatally. These cases as yet are entirely confined to the very lowest class of Chinese and natives, etc. The disease has not yet assumed an epidemic form."

At the meeting another letter from Consul-General Wildman was submitted. In this letter Mr. Wildman stated that he had received an official report to the effect that there had been five authenticated cases of plague in the city of Manila. The first was discovered on the 2nd instant, and these cases, with mine other suspects, had been confined to two districts in the city. There had been one case developed within the last seven days. The present death rate of the city was lower than it had been for many months. Underdate February 4th, Major-General Otis wrote:—"The health of the city is most excellent and there is no cause for apprehension that the plague will take any serious hold in this city. House to house inspection

was inaugurated several weeks ago and the physical condition of all the inhabitants.

THE PLAGUE IN FORMOSA.

Mr. W. G. Kanny, H. B. M. Consul in Tainan, forwarded a return of bubonic cases in Formosa during the year 1899, and added that there had been no reported cases in the district since November 25th. The return showed the number of cases to be 2,633; deaths, 1,974; recoveries 606; under treatment 54.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The death rate for the colony of Hongkong for the week ended January 27th was 21.8, against 2.7 for the previous week and 17 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the following week was 19.8, against 14.6 for the corresponding week last year.

The deaths in Macao for the week ended 21st January numbered 44 (including three from bubonic plague). The deaths for the following week numbered 54 (including two from plague).

This was all the business.

THE FATALITY ON THE "WHEELING."

PRACTICAL BRITISH SYMPATHY.

In connection with the recent explosion on board the U.S. gunboat *Wheeling*, which occurred when a salute was being fired in honour of the birthday of the German Emperor, resulting in Gunner's-mate Campbell being killed and Lieut.-Commander Beatty, Gunners Nelson, Bite and Conray, being injured, several British residents have given practical expression of their sympathy. H.E. Sir Henry Blake and several other gentlemen, made up the sum of \$1,000, which has been transmitted to the relatives of Campbell. Captain Burwell and the officers of the *Wheeling* expressed their gratitude and communicated the matter to Admiral Watson, who also wrote thanking the donors. Admiral Watson and the officers of the *Wheeling* then paid a call on H.E. the Governor, and further expressed their appreciation. The incident, coming so recently after the baseball match by the American sailors, which contributed \$535 to the South African Widows' and Orphans' Fund, certainly illustrates, better than all the talking in the world, the sympathetic and friendly feeling existing between the British and Americans in the Far East.

The other day we announced that H. E. the Governor and a few other gentlemen subscribed \$1,000 to the sufferers from the recent explosion on board the U.S. *Wheeling*. The following telegram from Secretary Long, of the U. S. Navy, has been received by Admiral Watson:—"Watson, Brooklyn, Hongkong.—Navy Department wishes you to express its high appreciation of the great generosity shown by the residents of Hongkong in providing for families of killed and injured on U.S.S. *Wheeling* in accident."

SUPREME COURT

9th February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
BEFORE HIS HONOR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

THE SHELL COLLECTING CASES.

The cases on the list included four in which Lai Po and another sued four junk-owners for \$100 each for trespassing on a parcel of ground covered by the sea off the eastern shore of the island of Lantau, and taking therefrom certain shells and corals, the property of the plaintiffs, who have leased the ground from Her Majesty the Queen.

Messrs. Deacon and Hastings are the solicitors for the plaintiffs and Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist for the defence.

His Lordship—With regard to these four shell cases, I take it they are all on the same line.

Mr. Wilkinson—Yes, my Lord, I think so.

His Lordship—Very well; which are you going to take. I am going to direct pleadings.

Mr. Wilkinson—In which of them?

His Lordship—That is for you to say. I shall order pleadings in one case and adjourn the other three *sine die*. You and Mr. Looker had better consult as to which case I should order pleadings in.

HONGKONG'S CONTRIBUTION TO
THE WAR RELIEF FUND.THE LORD MAYOR THANKS THE
COMMUNITY.

His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., has kindly sent us the following letter for publication:—

The Mansion House, London,
8th January.

Sir,—I have the honour to-day of receiving, through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the munificent sum of £7,500 from the Hongkong community for the Soldiers and Sailors' Families Association's branch of the Transvaal War Fund.

In acknowledging this handsome remittance, I shall be glad if your Excellency will favour me by conveying to the subscribers the gratitude I feel for their liberal response to your appeal, and my sincere and grateful thanks for this splendid manifestation of their sympathy in this national emergency.—I have the honour to be, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,
(signed) ALFRED J. NEWTON,
Lord Mayor.

His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.
Governor of Hongkong.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

"SAILORS AND SOLDIERS FAMILIES' FUND."
The Undersigned begs to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following subscriptions to the above Fund.

T. JACKSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received.

Already acknowledged	...\$95,363 92
Proceeds of Base Ball Game (per Consul-General Wildman)	... 535
A. G. Stokes	... 250
A few Cusses	... 100
An Afriander Boy	... 100
James Young	... 50
H. O.	... 50
Man at No. 2 Police Station	... 28.40
W. Stuart Harrison	... 25
Pirato	... 20
R. W. Dale	... 10
Surplus	... 7
Miss A. Wood	... 5
Mail Bag R.N.	... 286

Total\$96,495.18

THE ROYAL NAVAL SEAMEN'S
CLUB.

PROPOSED NEW PREMISES.

The premises in Queens Road East used as the Royal Naval Seamen's Club have long been recognised as not altogether satisfactory. For one thing they are out of the way, and another objection is that they are so closed in by surrounding buildings that in summer the rooms are little less than stifling. Accordingly for some time past a sub-committee appointed for the purpose have been on the look out for new premises, and negotiations have been going on with the view to purchasing the site at two blocks in Praya East, near Arsenal Street. Of course considerable alterations will be necessary before they will be suitable for use as a club, but the situation is a very good one, and there is hardly any doubt that the premises will be secured. Indeed it is reported that they have been secured already, and that the price paid for them is \$130,000.

A letter from Consul-General Wildman to the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary, is published in the *Government Gazette*, to the effect that the following lighthouses have been relighted in the Philippines:—Cape Mellville, Babatoc Island, Aphri Light, Japonia Island Light and San Bernardino Light.

The Stamp Revenue for last month amounted to \$11,017.57, being a net increase over January 1899 of \$9,466.98, but as \$7.35 was from Conveyance or Assignment and \$1,034 from Probate or Letters of Administration, the real increase from the general progress of the Colony is about \$1,000.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 3 p.m. on Monday, the 5th February, 1900.—Present: Messrs. R. M. Gray (chairman), A. McConachie (vice-chairman), A. Haupt, Sir Thomas Jackson, Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. H. A. Ritchie, U. A. Suba, Herbert Smith, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (secretary).—

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the previous meeting (held on the 15th January) were read and confirmed. CABLE RATES FROM FAR EAST TO EUROPE.

In accordance with decision taken at last meeting, letters were addressed (1) to the London Manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., acknowledging receipt of his reply to Chamber's letter of 22nd November, and asking to be furnished with a copy of the letter from the Company to the Government making a proposal for the general lowering of tariffs, and (2) to the local manager of the same company enclosing copy of the foregoing and asking if he would kindly make the inquiry by wire to save time.

Read reply from Mr. Vonder Pfordten, dated 22nd January, stating that, if the Government approves, a copy of the letter in question would be posted from London at once.

Also read letters from Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, dated 20th December, in reply to Chamber's letter of the 6th October, enclosing copy of correspondence with the Eastern Telegraph Co., Limited, who forwarded a memorandum re Indian Tariffs; and from the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, dated 28th December, in reply to same circular letter, and also enclosing copy of resolution adopted by that body on 12th December, in reference to the subject.

It was decided to publish this and other correspondence on this subject.

THE FOURTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

The Secretary stated that he had, as was decided at the last meeting, issued a circular to the members inviting suggestions with regard to the subjects to be forwarded to the congress in the shape of resolutions. To this appeal there had been two replies, which were laid on the table.

The Chairman read these, the first considered being a letter from Mr. Arnold, secretary of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., in which he suggested resolutions on "the preferential duties accorded by the Hoppo of Canton to junk-borne cargo," and with regard to the restrictions of the Inspector General of Customs on the West River Trade."

After some discussion.

It was decided, having regard to the conditions mentioned in the letter of the Organizing Committee of the Congress, that the first named subject could not be introduced, being of too purely local a nature, but that a resolution dealing with the manner in which the concession nominally opening the Inland Waters of China to navigation by foreign steamers, but rendering it impracticable by imposing obstructions to trade, should be submitted to congress.

The Chairman then read the following draft resolutions submitted by Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

REDUCTION-CABLE RATES.

Resolved,—That the strongest representations be made to the International Telegraph Convention, to the several Telegraph Companies, and to their respective Governments, with a view to an early reduction in the cost of telegraph rates on all lines, land and sub-marine.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION.

Resolved,—That in view of the early construction of the Hankow-Canton Railway and the no distant opening of direct communication between the central and southern provinces of China, the short line connecting Canton with Hongkong should, in the interests of Hongkong and of British Trade generally, be in hand and completed as soon as possible, so as to be ready to carry the immense and increasing trade, both exports and imports, which must almost necessarily flow through Canton, and

That the British Government be urged that as the Canton-Hongkong Railway with its terminus in British territory will subserve British trade mainly, Government should give every support, including financial aid, to the enterprise if necessary.

MARINE SURVEYS.

Resolved,—That a careful and thorough survey of the navigable channels and coast lines in the Eastern Seas is daily becoming more and more necessary in consequence of the rapid increase in the size and in the depth of steamers, ocean and coasting, employed in the trade, and that the British Government, being the leading naval power and as the owner of 62 per cent. of the total tonnage in Far Eastern waters, the Government should defray the expense of such re-survey.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.

Resolved,—That it is highly desirable that during the interval between the periodical meetings of this Congress, the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire should be represented in London by a permanent committee with a secretary to carry out the resolutions passed at this meeting, which would form a medium of communication between the different Chambers of Commerce and the Government, and would be able to prepare material for the next Congress.

Considerable discussion ensued on these proposals, and eventually it was decided to frame resolutions on the subject of restrictions on steam navigation on the Inland Waterways of China, the reduction of cable rates, and the re-surveys of Eastern seas, to be forwarded to the London Chamber and submitted by this Chamber's representatives at the forthcoming Congress. Copy of the three resolutions as revised are annexed.

HONGKONG AND THE CANADIAN PREFERENTIAL DUTIES.

A letter was, on the 19th January, addressed to the Government pointing out that Hongkong had been omitted from the list of British Colonies allowed by the Canadian Minister of Customs to participate in the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff in Canada, and, believing this to be an oversight, begging H. E. the Governor to represent the matter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Read reply to above, received 30th January, stating that the question had been duly laid before the Secretary of State.

PROPOSED CONSERVANCY BOARD FOR THE WOOSUNG RIVER.

The Secretary stated that a letter acknowledging receipt of the despatch and copy of correspondence on this subject received from the Government, was addressed to the Colonial Secretary on the 19th January, expressing the hope that the Government would give its cordial support to the project on general principles, as the colony was deeply and directly interested in anything that would be likely to alleviate the excessive burdens imposed on shipping frequenting Shanghai.

CHANGES IN THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Read letter, dated 14th Dec., from the Hon. Secretary of the Imperial Institute, enclosing copy of a memorandum sent, by direction of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, President of the Institute, to Governors of Colonies with the object of conveying an authentic account of certain modifications now in course of completion in the arrangements of the Institute, certain erroneous statements having appeared in the Public Press on the subject.

Resolved to reply in acknowledgment of this communication.

REUTER'S COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS.

A letter was received on the 10th Jan. from Reuter's Agent stating with reference to alterations and additions to the commercial service proposed by the chamber, the company were prepared to adopt certain of these, but others they were unable to accept owing to the cost.

The Secretary reported that a reply was despatched on the 19th, stating that the committee accepted the proposals of the company and hoped the exchanges would be effected as soon as they could be conveniently carried out.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, 10th January, 1900.

Sir.—I have now the pleasure of forwarding a copy of the suggestions offered by the firms interested in the Arms trade on the Bill for the amendment of the Arms and Ammunition Or-

inance now under consideration by the Legislative Council, and at the same time must beg you to excuse the unavoidable delay in its transmission.

I am instructed by the Committee to state that they trust His Excellency the Governor will see his way to give full consideration to the amendments to the Bill suggested in the enclosed memorandum, which has been compiled by those who are thoroughly conversant with all the aspects and conditions of the trade.

With regard to the proposed fee for a licence to import and deal in arms and ammunition, the amount fixed, viz., \$1,200, appears to the Committee to be altogether excessive. The Government, it is presumed, in raising the fee from \$10 is influenced by two reasons; on the one hand to cover the expense of working the provisions of the Ordinance; and, on the other hand, to ensure the respectability of the licensees. My committee submit that these objects might be attained by fixing the fee at some reasonable figure, and therefore strongly recommend this point to the reconsideration of the Government.

The exemptions in clause 5 of the Bill to those persons required to obtain a licence to bear or carry arms should, the Committee think, be extended to all jurors, common as well as special. Because (as mentioned in the statement of objects and reasons appended to the Bill) one common juror who has abused the privilege is surely a very inadequate pretext for inflicting hardship on all the rest. To meet cases of that kind, a clause might be introduced into the Bill making such abuse punishable by fine and loss of the privilege in perpetuity.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Memorandum submitted by the Importers and Wholesale Dealers, in Arms and Ammunition in Hongkong on the subject of "A Bill, entitled An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the carriage and possession of Arms and Ammunition."

1. There is a very extensive trade in arms and ammunition carried on in Hongkong. The large and by far the more important part of the trade is a wholesale trade, arms and ammunition of all kinds being imported into the colony in bulk, being stored in the colony for longer or shorter periods according to the state of the market, and being exported from the colony in steamers under British and foreign flags and not in junks. That export trade is carried on with Russia, Korea, Japan, China, Tonquin and Cochin-China, the Straits Settlements, Java, Borneo and even with South America and Mexico.

2. There is also an extensive retail trade, the importer selling arms and ammunition in larger or smaller quantities to the local dealers, and the local dealers selling by retail to European customers either resident or in transit, and to Chinese, mainly small traders from neighbouring ports, casual visitors to the colony and to the junk people.

3. It is clearly recognized that the local trade in arms and ammunition and the carrying and possession of arms and ammunition in the colony must be regulated, but, except in so far as may be necessary for purely local purposes and for rendering the restraints on the local trade effective, there should be no interference with the wholesale trade or with the import or export of arms and ammunition. It is a perfectly legitimate branch of trade. It is entirely untrammelled in England. It is not forbidden by International Law. All foreign powers have the right and the power to protect themselves by making the import of arms and ammunition into their respective countries contraband. No country interferes with the trade of its own subjects in contraband, and there is no reason why the Government of this colony should pass laws to protect foreign countries.

4. The importers and wholesale dealers in arms are perfectly willing—(1) to take out a licence to import and deal in arms and ammunition; (2) to pay a reasonable licence fee, sufficient to cover all the expenses Government may be put to in regulating the local trade; (3) to register their names, places of business and godowns, (4) to report to the harbour master or

other proper official, the captain superintendent of police if preferred, all imports and exports of arms and ammunition; (5) to keep proper stock books; (6) to make periodical returns; (7) to submit to examination at all reasonable times of their books and godowns by some responsible official, and to subject themselves to penalties for any breaches of the law.

5. But the importers and wholesale dealers submit that no licence fee should be levied beyond what is necessary to cover the Government expenditure; that any higher rate is not a licence fee but a tax imposed upon the trade and an infringement of the freedom of the port, and that the additional trouble and expense thrown upon the importers and dealers by the stringent provisions of the Ordinance and the certain diminution of the local trade, is in itself a sufficiently heavy tax. A fee of \$100 for a licence to import and to deal in arms wholesale is ample; a fee of \$10 or \$20 per annum is a sufficient licence fee to impose on retail dealers, whose business is likely to be seriously affected.

6. The importers and wholesale dealers submit that, if godowns and stores are registered and are open to the police inspection, together with their books, there is ample security that no arms will be sold or disposed of by them for export or to licensed dealers, and all the restrictions on the removal and conveyance of arms and ammunition in the colony, so far as they are concerned, are needless.

7. They suggest that any arms or ammunition that it may be necessary for them to move in the colony whether for export or from godown to godown, or delivery to other dealers in the colony on sale, shall be sufficiently protected if the coolie carrying the arms or ammunition is provided with a statement properly authenticated in writing of the kind, number and quantity of the arms or ammunition or both that are being moved, of the name of the dealer moving the arms, etc., and of their immediate destination, such statement to be made on a form supplied on payment by the Government to each dealer. Where there are more coolies than two employed a head coolie should accompany them bearing the certificate. The requirement of the Bill that no arms or ammunition shall be moved without a removal permit or exported without an export permit is an unnecessary impediment in the way of business in Hongkong. It takes two or three days to get a permit as a rule, and from noon on Saturday until 10 a.m. on Monday and on holidays no permit can be applied for or obtained. Much business is now done by wire, steamers remain in port but a very days, and much valuable business is lost by the necessity of getting an export or removal permit.

8. The forfeiture of arms being moved for any purpose unaccompanied by a certificate such as is above mentioned will be in nearly all cases a more than sufficient punishment for any neglect.

9. An effective use by the police of the power to inspect books and examine and check stocks will prevent any improper disposition of either arms or ammunition.

10. With reference to the export of arms and ammunition to China in foreign-built ships and steamers, the importers and dealers submit that there should be no restriction whatever. They can only go to open ports, and the Imperial Maritime Customs are fully competent to protect Chinese interests at these ports and to enforce the laws of China with reference to contraband.

11. Importers and wholesale dealers holding licence and registered as such should not, of course, sell arms or ammunition retail in the colony, but only to licensed retail dealers.

12. It is submitted that the Ordinance would be much improved if these two classes of dealers—the importers and wholesale dealers and the retail dealers—were dealt with separately.

13. As to the retail trade, it is suggested that no wholesale dealer should be at liberty to sell or dispose of any arms or ammunition except to licensed dealers. That all retail dealers should be licensed and registered and their names and addresses be published in *The Gazette*. That they should be required to keep books and furnish returns like the wholesale dealers, and that their books and stock should be periodically examined and checked.

14. Under the existing Ordinances this examination of Books and checking of stocks has never been enforced. If it had been there would have been no need for the present Bill.

15.—Retail dealers sell in all quantities, a single rifle, or fowling piece or pistol, or a package of ammunition, or a pound of powder or a box of caps value 50 cents. It renders that trade impossible, or forces them into illegal trafficking in arms, to require every purchaser of the smallest quantity of ammunition or of the smallest fire-arm or part of a fire-arm to hold a permit to possess or carry arms or to export. It would be far better to say at once that it is intended to suppress the entire trade in arms than to harass it in this way. Thousands of Chinese come to Hongkong daily by the steamers from Canton and Macao, and by junk. Many of them are either entitled by permit from the Chinese Mandarins to have arms, or are for their own protection absolutely compelled to provide themselves with arms. Many of them are here on business only for a day. Many come one day and return the next. It is impossible for them in the time to get permits to possess, or carry, or export, and in the time what chance have they (strangers in the Colony) of getting such permit from the Captain Superintendent of Police. He is too busy to attend to them. He would refuse the permit until he had time to make inquiries and verify their statements.

16.—If the provisions of the present Bill become law and are enforced, the retail trade in arms will be killed dead, and with that retail trade a considerable and a valuable portion of the wholesale trade will be destroyed too, for the aggregate sale of arms and ammunition in the colony by retail is very considerable in a year. The retail traders will move to Macao, and the import and wholesale trade will follow and will fall into the hands of unscrupulous persons who will make it their sole business, with the probable result that the ill-disposed both here and on the mainland will find it still more easy to procure both arms and ammunition. The import into the colony of arms and ammunition in small quantities by junk or boat from Macao cannot be checked.

17.—The following suggestions are made for the amendment of the Bill now before the Council:—

1.—That it be divided into three parts. One dealing with the importers and wholesale dealers. One dealing with the retail dealers. One regulating the carriage and possession of arms; and that the regulations applicable to each be worked out separately.

2.—That the expression "to carry arms" be defined and limited to the carriage of arms on the person for use or ready for use, and that some other expression be introduced and defined to cover the carrying of arms in the sense of conveying them from place to place as a coolie carries arms or ammunition from shop to godown or boat, or a servant carries a gun or a belt of cartridges for his master's use. No one should carry arms in the first sense. No person conveying arms or ammunition in the second sense should be required to have more than authorisation of the owner of the arms, who should be responsible if anything was wrong.

3.—"Possession" is a word that also needs definition. There is the possession of the owner, who remains in possession, even when the arms are in the actual custody of his servant. There is the possession of the servant which, if duly authorised by a person empowered to possess, ought to go free of any penalties.

4. The Captain Superintendent of Police is probably the proper person to grant licences to carry or have possession of arms. He has probably the best means of knowing who may safely be permitted to carry arms, but the period covered by the licence, the conditions on which it is granted, and the power of revocation, should be regulated by law or by rules and regulations made by the Governor-in-Council.

An appeal should lie to the Governor-in-Council from any refusal to grant a licence, the Captain Superintendent of Police being obliged by law on demand to state in writing his reasons for his refusal.

5. The provisions of paragraph 5 of the Bill are by no means clear, and want defining. Under its provision—

(a) A man carrying a revolver in his belt ready loaded;

(b) A coolie carrying a revolver in a case from one shop to another or to a customer, or for repair;

(c) A Chinaman from the mainland who has bought a dozen rounds of ammunition or a box of caps, are all in the same position and all equally need a licence to carry or possess.

6. Under section 6 sub-section (b), if a non-resident foreigner or Chinese wants to buy even a box of caps to take on board his ship or junk and not for use in the colony the vendor must obtain an export permit before he can supply what is wanted.

Why should not the purchaser, if any one, obtain this export permit? But as already pointed out any attempt seriously to enforce this rule will kill the retail trade in the colony most effectually, and will not prevent one single bad character who wants to purchase weapons from providing himself with them.

7. Section 7 requires a Chinaman from the mainland who comes here one day in a junk and returns the next day and who buys a box of caps to take with him to his home to get an export permit, and then when he gets on board his junk to deliver the caps to the custody of the master or mate of the junk and must return the receipt and the permit to some officer of Government. The clause is impracticable and can properly only affect wholesale dealers. There is no provision in the Ordinance providing for the case of a man who buys a weapon in the colony for the sole purpose of taking it out of the colony for use in his own home.

8. Clause 8 is far too wide. It affects every person—wholesale dealer, retail dealer, person privileged or licensed—to carry arms—every one. No member of council can send his fowling piece to the gunsmith's to be cleaned or repaired, without a removal permit.

9. With reference to clause 10 it should be so modified so that in the case of a person suspected of carrying arms he should be taken at once before an inspector and searched, so that, if the suspicion was unfounded he might at once be discharged from custody, other wise a perfectly innocent man might be detained from Saturday till Monday.

10. The Captain Superintendent of Police should not be the person to grant or refuse licences to dealers and importers. Such licences should be granted by the Colonial Secretary. And there should be two classes of licences—one for importers and wholesale dealers and one for retail dealers.

11. The amount of the fee payable has already been discussed.

12. There should be no power to cancel any licence once issued, except for breach of the conditions on which the licence was issued, or of some provision of the law, and after conviction. Any refusal to grant a licence should be subject to appeal, the applicant being entitled to have in writing the reasons for the refusal.

All arms and ammunition being conveyed from any part of the colony to another, unless accompanied by a licensed person or with certificate from the owner—a privileged person, a licensed wholesale dealer, or a licensed retailer—giving the name of the owner, the quantity and kind of arms or ammunition conveyed, and the destination; otherwise arms liable to be forfeited, and the bearer if unable to account for his possession punishable.

Removal permits impracticable. Think of a removal permit being required to enable a man to get a packet of cartridges conveyed by a coolie from a store to his house.

The requirement of a certificate will render boxes and labels unnecessary.

Section 20 should be so modified as to authorize any police constable to convey any suspected person to a station, there to have his box or package opened and searched.

Section 22 requires modification to provide for the case of European passengers of standing and position, persons licensed or privileged to carry arms in Hongkong from being exposed to have their persons examined and their baggage searched for arms. It puts it in the power of a disagreeable ship's captain to grossly insult and annoy a passenger against whom he had any ill-feeling. It is too big a power to give any man, especially when coupled with the power to arrest. It is given to all masters of all vessels of any nationality, even Chinese junks, and

might be used to deprive passengers of the means of self-defence and to leave them at the mercy of pirates.

It wants very strict limitation.

Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures,
(Incorporated by Royal Charter 17-3).
Glasgow, 20th December, 1899.

CABLE RATES TO THE FAR EAST.

Dear Sir.—I am to acknowledge receipt of your printed communication of date 8th October respecting the above, and to inform you that it was submitted to and carefully considered by the Directors of the Chamber.

The Directors felt that as the Chamber had only recently taken action with a view to the reduction of cable rates between this country and India and the Far East, it was scarcely expedient so soon to approach H.M. Government or the cable companies concerned, and therefore, while expressing cordial sympathy with the action by your Chamber, I was instructed to write you to that effect; at same time to send for the information of your Chamber the enclosed print of a letter and relative memorandum received from the vice-chairman of the Eastern Telegraph Co., Ltd. in which it is stated that the telegraph companies are willing to consider any offer which may be made for the reduction of tariffs.

This letter and memorandum have been forwarded to the Bengal and Bombay Chambers of Commerce and have by them been submitted to the Indian Government, but so far I have not heard the result.—I am, dear sir, yours truly,

(signed) WILLIAM H. HILL,
Secretary.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

GLASGOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
[COPY.]

The Eastern Telegraph Co., Ltd.,
Winchester House, 50, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C., 8th June, 1899.

J. Galloway Esq., President, Chamber of Commerce, Glasgow.

Sir,—Referring to our interview of the 1st instant, I now enclose copy of a memorandum which has been prepared with regard to the Indian Tariffs. This memorandum can be freely used, and it has been submitted to our partners, the Indo-European Telegraph Co.

I can only repeat that these companies are willing to consider any offer which may be made to them by the Indian Government for a reduction of tariffs, and are equally prepared to bear a share of and loss of revenue which may be caused by the reduction required.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. DENISON-PENDER,
Vice-Chairman.

2nd June, 1899.

MEMORANDUM RE INDIAN TARIFFS.

For some years past the companies carrying the traffic between Europe and India have been memorialised to reduce the Indian rate.

The companies have always expressed their willingness to reduce tariffs whenever experience has shown that a natural expansion of traffic has taken place, and is likely to take place, by a tariff, and have always been, and are now, willing to take a fair share in any reduction of tariff, if the Government concerned would bear a proportion of the actual loss of revenue, the companies not only bearing a share of the loss, but undertaking the extra expense of carrying any increased traffic.

The reasons which have influenced the companies with regard to the Indian tariff have been as follows:—

1.—The traffic between India and Europe has been shown by experience to be a non-expansive one, and the companies consider that it would require a very large reduction of tariff to materially increase the actual tariff carried. The following figures will speak for themselves. The tariff was reduced to 4s. per word on the 1st July, 1886:—

Words.	Revenue of Administrations owning the telegraph lines between India and Europe.
1885..... 2,158,521	£394,270
1886..... 2,153,507	374,121
1887..... 2,134,002	342,271
1888..... 2,110,163	334,129

Words.

Words.	Revenue of Administrations owning the telegraph lines between India and Europe.
1889..... 2,029,149	328,490
1890..... 2,111,456	338,894
1891..... 2,250,074	354,749
1892..... 2,300,823	364,196
1893..... 2,567,353	376,237
1894..... 2,190,102	347,728
1895..... 2,195,916	358,724
1896..... 2,180,158	353,683
1897..... 2,370,013	370,428
1898..... 2,275,371	365,019

2.—In all the correspondence which the companies have had with the merchants, who are the actual users of the telegraph, we have never had a single application for a reduction of tariff, but we have had applications to be allowed to send at a higher rate, in order that one person's telegrams might have the preference over those of others.

3.—The perfection to which the system of coding telegrams has been brought practically reduces the charge of 4s. per word to India to about 2d. per actual word sent by the merchant, a figure that cannot be called dear.

4.—If the traffic were to increase through a reduction of rate so as to recoup the companies for the total loss made, it would necessitate the laying of extra cables between Great Britain and India, a single line of which could not be laid under a million and a half of money, and, if this large increase took place, the companies would have to face this additional expenditure of capital with the consequent annual charges for interest, maintenance, and working.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Incorporated, Colombo, 19th December, 1899.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir.—I have the pleasure to hand you for your information a copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by this Chamber re Reduction of Cable Rates.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) R. W. BURNS,
Secretary.

CABLE RATES.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Incorporated, Colombo, 26th September, 1899.

The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sir,—As you are doubtless aware, there has been, during the past few years, a growing agitation over the question of telegraph cable rates between the United Kingdom and the East, and the necessity for the reduction of them.

2.—The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce on 15th June last passed the following resolution:—"That this Chamber considers the time has now arrived when the cost of cable messages between Great Britain and the East should be reduced, and they recommend that combined action be taken in conjunction with the Chambers of Commerce in India, the Straits and China, in order to accomplish it."

3.—Since then the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong, Singapore, Rangoon, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and Upper India, have addressed the Imperial Government or its representatives, urging that steps be taken to bring about a reduction in rates, and the Ceylon Chamber desires to impress upon you the importance of this question in the interests of the Empire as a whole.

4.—The enormous importance of commercial interests to the State and to the community renders it of paramount necessity that everything that presses on trade and industry, and everything that hinders progress, should be removed. The exorbitant charges made for cable messages are of this nature, and for a tax upon the foreign trade of the Dependencies of the Empire, altogether disproportionate to the maximum gross profits of that trade, and to actual cost of the services.

5.—The present rate between Ceylon and England is Rs. 3.10 per word, and practically no reduction has been made in rates for many years, notwithstanding the greater perfection of scientific appliances, which ought to contribute towards cheapening the cost of telegraphy.

6.—It is believed if a very substantial reduction were made in charges for messages it would be followed by a large increase in messages; sufficient to cover such concession.

7.—A deputation waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer in July last, when the views and wishes of those interested, in India and the East, were fully explained and an assurance was given that these would be laid before Government and, whether the admitted grievances are to become the subject of enquiry by a Royal Commission, or a Committee of the House of Commons, or whether Government will at once endeavour to improve the position by negotiation with the telegraph companies, failing which a linking up of existing international land lines might be adopted, it is for the Imperial Authorities to decide, but the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce relies with confidence on your countenance and support being given to such action as shall be for the well-being of the best interests of the colony.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) F. M. MACKWOOD,

Chairman,

Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the governing directors for the year ending the 31st December, 1899, for presentation to the shareholders at the fourteenth ordinary annual general meeting of the Company, to be held at the registered offices of the Company, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, at noon, on Monday, the 19th February, 1900.

To the shareholders of Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you our report and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1899.

The net profit for that period, including \$519.03 brought forward from last account, amounts to \$32,373.83, out of which we propose to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. for the year and carry forward \$4,873.83 to the credit of new profit and loss account.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
Governing Directors.

Hongkong, 7th February, 1900.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES	\$	c.
Capital account, 55,000 shares of \$10 each	550,000.00	
Debentures, 200 of \$1,000 each	200,000.00	
Fund for equalization of dividend	25,000.00	
Unclaimed dividends	277.00	
Fixed loans	49,308.60	
Cash on deposit	21,942.54	
Profit and loss	32,373.83	
	\$878,801.97	

ASSETS	\$	c.
Amount invested in property	829,626.72	
Rents due and accounts receivable	8,181.29	
Office furniture	700.00	
Cash in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	\$40,217.10	
Cash in hand	76.86	
	40,293.96	
	\$878,801.97	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	\$	c.
To general charges, Crown rent, fire insurance	7,810.80	
To repairs	3,994.90	
To interest	13,103.21	
To governing directors' and auditor's fees, and allowance for clerks and office rent	3,100.00	
To dividend of 5 per cent. on \$50,000	2,500.00	
To balance to new account	4,873.83	
	\$60,382.64	
Cr.	\$	c.
By amount carried forward from 1898	519.03	
By rents	4,353.25	
By commission and profits on investments	4,284.26	
By transfer fees	126.00	
	\$60,382.64	

Two collisions occurred on the 5th inst., at Shanghai, when a launch fouled the ram of the Russian gun-boat *Gremiasichy*. The gun-boat came off best. The second was the colliding between a Japanese collier and a Japanese gun-boat resulting in slight damages to both vessels.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors to the ninth ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders to be held at the offices of the Bank, Victoria Buildings, Hongkong, on Saturday, 10th March, 1900, at noon.

To the shareholders, the National Bank of China, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now the pleasure to submit to you the accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1899.

The gross profits are \$213,093.58, which, after deducting all charges amounting to \$109,857.31, leaves the net profit of \$103,236.27.

This the Directors propose to deal with as follows:—To place \$21,102.83 to capital reserve fund, bringing that account up to a final sum of \$191,973.33, to pay a dividend of \$1.36 per share (in London 2/8), absorbing \$55,016.08, to place \$17,533.35 to reserve fund, and to carry forward \$9,584.01.

Mr. Gillies retires in rotation from the Head Office Board and Mr. Wotton from the London Committee, and being eligible for re-election, offer themselves accordingly.

The accounts at the Head Office have been audited by Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts, and in London by Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co., Chartered Accountants. —Your obedient servant,

CHAN KIT SHAN,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1900.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital, 750 fully paid founder's shares of £1 each (laid down in the East at exchange of 3s.)	5,007.00		
Capital, partly paid, 4323,624 (laid down in the East at exchange of 3s.)	2,157,493.32		
Capital reserve fund	170,370.50		
Notes in circulation	2,335,363.82		
Fixed deposits and current accounts	478,295.00		
Loans payable	455,683.07		
Bills for collection and branch balances	430,000.00		
Drafts, acceptances and endorsements (bills rediscounted)	308,869.78		
Balance of profit and loss account	406,760.53		
	103,236.27		
	\$4,516,238.17		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash on hand and at bankers	331,345.94		
Government securities belonging to the bank	433,621.45		
Bills receivable, loans and advances	433,621.45		
Bills for collection receivable and branch balances	2,012,678.99		
Furniture, stationery and stamps	1,711,748.67		
Interest, &c., accrued	23,180.12		
	2,623.00		
	\$4,516,208.17		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

Dr.		\$	c.
Charges, directors' fees and salaries	109,857.31		
Amount to be placed to capital reserve fund	21,102.83		
Amount to be placed to reserve fund	17,533.35		
Dividend account, proposed payment of \$1.36 per share on 40,453 shares, (2/8 per share in London at exchange of 1/11½)	55,016.08		
Balance to be carried forward to next account	9,584.01		
	103,236.27		
	\$213,093.58		
Cr.		\$	c.
Gross earnings for the year ending 31st December, 1899	213,093.58		
	\$213,093.58		

On 1st January, 1900, our capital and reserve funds will stand as follow:—

		\$	c.
Capital fully paid founder's shares	5,000.00		
Capital partly paid ordinary shares	2,157,493.32		
Capital reserve fund	191,973.33		
Reserve fund (new)	17,533.35		
	\$2,372,000.00		

Three Russians, described as naturalists, were found \$200 each for trespassing on military property at Singapore. The defendants were seen to pause and read the prohibitory notice.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-first ordinary meeting, to be held at the Company's Offices on Thursday, the 8th March, 1900, at twelve o'clock (noon).

The Directors have the pleasure to submit their annual report and statement of the Company's accounts made up to 31st December last, 1899.

The balance at credit of working account as per last report was ... \$120,486.20
Add premia since received 1,490.20

Deduct claims paid in 1899 ... \$32,894.84
Deduct return premia, &c. 2,646.54

Balance of profit ... \$86,135.17

To the above profit it is proposed to transfer the sum of \$36,052.83 from the extra reserve fund towards payment of \$120,000 as a dividend for the year, at the rate of \$6 per share, and \$2,494 as bonus to contributors of premia.

The extra reserve fund was reduced from \$56,972.10 to \$27,926.05 by payment of a contested claim pertaining to the year 1897, and by the above transfer will now stand at \$1,867.22 as shown in the annexed balance sheet.

1899.—The balance at credit of working account at the close of this year was \$223,763.03, which is a satisfactory out-turn owing to a diminution in the amount of claims paid. The premium income shows a falling off which the closing of two unprofitable agencies will more than account for.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. E. Goetz, A. G. Wood and E. Shellim were appointed to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of the late Mr. C. Beurnann and Messrs. C. S. Sharp and D. Gubbay, which appointments shareholders will be asked to confirm.

Mr. D. M. Moses was appointed a director on the resignation of Mr. E. Shellim, and this will also require the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. A. Haupt and A. McConachie retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts have audited the annexed accounts and offer themselves for re-election.

H. L. DALRYMPLE,

Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account	400,000.00		
Reserve fund	1,000,000.00		
Extra reserve fund	1,867.22		
Accounts payable:—			
Dividend for 1898	\$120,000.00		
Bonus for 1898 and sundries	7,651.05		
	127,651.05		
Working account, 1899:—			
Balance at credit	2,376,303.03		
	\$1,753,281.30		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash at bankers	81,324.73		
Fixed deposits at banks:—			
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$200,000.00		
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	75,000.00		
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.	10,000.00		
	325,000.00		
Investments:—			
Chinese Imperial Government E. bonds	\$98,363.79		
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	103,152.50		
Hongkong Club debentures	50,000.00		
Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, debentures	50,000.00		
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, debentures	40,877.40		
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., debentures	41,617.07		
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited, debentures	8,472.22		
	401,482.98		
Loans on mortgage:—			
On properties in Hongkong	\$830,786.33		
On properties in Shanghai	63,992.46		
On properties in Amoy	20,000.00		
	969,778.8		

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited:—		\$	c.
Four shares	522.00		
Furniture account:—			
Office furniture, &c.	450.00		
Accounts receivable:—			
Premia due from agencies, interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	23,231.75		
	\$1,753,281.30		

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

Dr.		\$	c.
To charges account:—			
Rent, salaries, legal and surveyors' fees, taxes, stamps, stationery, &c.	\$ 9,708.55		
Directors' and auditors' fees	7,400.00		
	37,108.55		
To commission account:—			
Agents' commissions	22,659.22		
To fire brigades account:—			
Contributions at agencies, &c.	365.86		
To losses account, 1899:—			
Claims paid after deduction of re-insurances	63,543.60		
To amount written off:—			
Furniture account	50.00		
To balance	223,763.03		
	\$247,495.26		
Cr.		\$	c.
By premium account:—			
Premiums received after deduction of re-insurances	245,000.38		
By interest account:—			
Amount at credit, including interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	102,510.57		
By transfer fee account:—			
Amount at credit	184.31		
	\$347,495.26		

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, inform us they have received the following telegram from Mr. Roberts, consulting engineer to the Company:—

"Eureka Mine strongly urge you to provide funds for development expenses, there are good prospects fully justifying the expenditure of capital, it is most imperative that we should resume sinking, advise early what to do."

The General Managers inform us that pending further information by letter from the mines and having ample funds in hand for present needs, they have given instructions by wire to at once resume sinking.

Sunday, February 11th, was observed in Singapore in all the churches as a day for special prayer on behalf of the army in South Africa. A special service was held in the Anglican cathedral.

The tenders invited by the Spanish Marine Commission at Manila for the purchase of the gun-boats *Alava*, *Quiros*, and *Villalobos* have been opened and the Commission has accepted the Compania Maritima's offer of \$190,500. The artillery and ammunition were not sold, the conditions of the sale being that these articles would be sold separately on the purchase of the ships presenting an order from the American authorities sanctioning his purchase of the armament. The offers for the ships fell below the price which was laid by the Marine Commission; so far below, in fact, that a telegram was sent to Spain asking whether the highest bid of \$190,500 should be accepted. The boats were, however, knocked down to the Compania Maritima for the price.

The following promotions to date from January 1st have been notified in the Police Orders:—Inspector Kemp to be Acting Chief Inspector; Second-class Inspector Baker to be First-class; Second-class Inspector Robertson to be First-class; Third-class Inspector Cuthbert to be Second-class; P.S. 59 Gauld to be Acting Third-class Inspector. Lance Sergeants to be Full Sergeants—MacSwayed 14, Ashmore 30, O'Sullivan 28, Keen 62, Marison 67, Watt 11, Gordon 38, Gerrard 20, Lamont 17. L. S. 75 McDonald to be Acting Full Sergeant. Temporary A. S. Sullivan to be Lance Sergeant. P.C.'s to be Lance Sergeants—Lander 78, Angus 82, McKay 57, Noble 3, Watt 22, Cameron 24, Ritchie 31, Smith 35, Kerr 8, Terrett 21, Garrod 33, Lacock 43, McKenzie 44, Quinn 47, Kent 53, Smith 54 and Kendall 16.

THE NAVAL YARD EXTENSION.

CONTRACT SECURED BY A LONDON FIRM.

The contract for the extension of the Hong-kong Naval Yard, has, we learn, been given to a London firm. The proposed extension comprises the whole area north of the Queen's Road from Murray Pier to Arsenal street and extends seawards about 400 feet beyond the line of the new Praya. The works consist of a Tidal Basin 8½ acres, with over 2,000 feet of inner and 1,100 feet of outer berthing space; the walls will be straight with 30ft. at low water, so that ships can lie alongside. The War Department will have a large area of ground opposite the Royal Engineers' Establishment, with boat basin and jetties. There are to be the large workshops for engineering purposes.

The dry dock will be over 600ft. long and 120ft. wide, stone lined throughout. The works are supposed to be completed in ½ years. Five English contractors and one local firm, Messrs. Leigh and Orange, were invited to tender for the work. A telegram was received on the 9th inst. that Messrs. Panchard, McTaggart, Lowther & Co., Ltd., had obtained the contract at a price of a little less than one million sterling.

NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 9th February.

SURPRISING LOSSES INFLICTED BY LADRONES AND FILIPINOS.—THE HEMP MARKET.—AN AMUSING RACE AMONG HEMP BUYERS.

It is a strange state of affairs that exists in the Philippines to-day. Improvement is visible in nearly every quarter. Civil governments are rapidly being established in every town of importance, and garrisons and patrols are in process of extension wherever Americans hold territory, and yet it is an undeniable fact that since January 1st the Insurgent forces have captured a number of rifles and quantities of ammunition from the Americans almost equalling the sum total of American captures from the Insurgents. Besides this, the casualty rate for the last two weeks will come very close to being heavier than at any other period of the insurrection, with the exception of the time of the outbreak and the fortnight beginning with March 25th, 1897. These are hard facts to swallow and somewhat alarming into the bargain.

The threatened guerilla warfare that was heard of on every side seems to be a stern reality, and parties of fifty or smaller numbers are ambushed and "jumped" day after day. Supply trains, small escorts and scouting parties are the special objects of attack and the country seems to be full of small roving bands, waiting at every convenient cover until the prey is caught.

In one or two instances heavy patrols or strong scouting parties have quickly avenged these raids by setting out immediately and hunting down and killing as many of the marauders as possible. These lessons have not been forgotten, and in the immediate districts there have been no repetitions of the trouble. The authorities are giving the question considerable attention and every effort will be made to insure the public safety, for on this depends the future of the country. England's policy in India is frequently discussed and her swift and severe punishments are looked upon as model peace-makers.

HEMP.

The hemp market is still unsteady, and until more of the steamers arrive from the recently opened ports all speculation will be uncertain. There has been a grand rush to buy up and load to Manila with the product that has been accumulating for months in Insurgent territory, and until it arrives and its quality is determined the buyers will be somewhat in the dark.

The merchant ships, many of them towing sailing vessels and schooners, followed along behind the transports, and as soon as a landing of the troops was effected the agents raced ashore and fought over prices and qualities. Thousands of bales were destroyed by the fires, but immense quantities are still in sight. The market at Tacloban was run up "clean out of

sight" to the fabulous sum of \$24, regardless of quality, by two inexperienced buyers who were acting for a Manila firm. The two men managed to get ashore before the others, and cornered the Chinese hemp seller during the fight. They dragged him out of his hiding place and jammed a contract under his nose. The Chino agreed to sell 10,000 bales, and though he was frightened to death by the bullets that occasionally punctured his house and godowns, nevertheless he was cute enough to fleece the hasty buyers to the extent of \$40,000. The bargain was brought to a sudden conclusion by the rapid approach of an Englishman bent on the same mission. When the Englishman, who, by the way, rushed over with a boat load of money and credentials, arrived he was simply dumbfounded by the high price offered by his rivals. He knew there was some mistake but he said nothing, and quickly chased up other sellers. However they had all heard of the high price being offered, the news spread quickly and they refused to sell for one cent less. And there the market hangs to-day away beyond reach. Only one class of buyers, the amateur buyers and that was made by the wily Chino himself. It is to the effect that if ships are not loading the hemp by a certain date the contract is null and void. When the buyers got back to Manila and found the mistake they had made in not specifying a scale of prices according to grade, they were sadder and wiser men with \$40,000 rapidly fading from sight, but they are saved by the time clause.

Just what the Chino thinks he has is not known, but it is safe to say that ships will not go to load the \$24 hemp by the date specified or any other for that matter.

THE VISIT OF THE "ILTIS" TO MACAO.

Writing on the 12th inst., our Macao correspondent states that with the permission of the Governor of Macao, the German gunboat *Ilitis* had been engaged four or five days in taking soundings of the harbour.

Viewed in the light of recent statements made in the home press, both English and German, respecting the acquirement of Portuguese colonies, in which Macao was mentioned, our correspondent's information of course was important.

We have, however, made enquiries, and it is officially and emphatically denied that the *Ilitis* on her recent visit to Macao took any soundings of the harbour or river whatever, beyond those soundings made from the ship when a navigator would be compelled to make who desired to conduct safely his ship to the anchorage. No soundings whatever were taken from boats, nor were the Portuguese authorities approached for permission.

MACAO NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

MACAO, 12th February.

ELECTION OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO PORTUGAL.

Macao and Timor are entitled to send a representative to the Legislative Assembly in Portugal, and Mr. Falcão's term having expired, he yesterday came before the public for re-appointment or otherwise. The election took place at St. Bento (Timor). As on previous occasions, the election aroused very little interest in Macao, which, seeing that Timor has three times as many electors, invariably says "Let Timor elect a deputy." Mr. Falcão was re-elected.

THE GERMAN GUNBOAT "ILTIS" TAKES SOUNDINGS.

During the last few days our harbour has been visited by a couple of foreign men-of-war. On Thursday week the German gunboat *Ilitis* made her appearance in the inner harbour, and having obtained permission from the Government was engaged for four or five days taking soundings, the *Ilitis* and her boats running about in all directions.

VISIT FROM AN AUSTRIAN CRUISER.

Yesterday an Austrian cruiser saluted the shore, and soon afterwards our shore batteries

replied. The officers came ashore about noon and called on H.E. the Governor. I understand that the Austrian Consul accompanied them. The band of the cruiser played at noon at the Public Gardens of San Francisco.

THE TIEN TSU HUI OF CHINA.

ADDRESS BY MRS. ARCHIBALD LITTLE.

On the 14th inst., under the auspices of the Hongkong Odd Volumes Society, Mrs. Archibald Little delivered a lecture in the City Hall on "Footbinding." There was a large attendance. Lady Blake occupied the chair. Mrs. Little is the founder of the Tien Tsu Hui (Natural Feet Society) of China and she is visiting the southern ports on behalf of the Society with the object of strengthening the movement for doing away with the cruel custom with which China is peculiarly identified. From Hongkong Mrs. Little purposes going to Macao and Canton, and thence to Swatow, Amoy and Foochow.

Lady BLAKE said she had been asked to preside there that day in order to introduce to them Mrs. Little, though there was little need for her to do so. Mrs. Little had already made her name known by her writings and her work not only in China but in countries far away. It was about a portion of that work that she was good enough to come to address them that evening, a work in which they could all take an interest, inasmuch as its object was to abolish unnecessary suffering. The Chinese had a proverb, "Every pair of golden lilies costs a jar of tears." They all knew how difficult it was to change old customs, not only in China but elsewhere, but the Chinese were so logical and so rational that there were those who hoped that when they got convinced that no one was a better judge of what a woman's foot should be than man the great mass of people in China would follow the example of some of its most distinguished men and go in for anti-foot-binding (Applause.)

Mrs. LITTLE then delivered her address, touching upon the progress of the society since its formation five years ago down to the present time, and pointing out the method of work adopted. She observed that the missionaries were working against footbinding long before the Tien Tsu Hui came into existence, but it occurred to several women who were not missionaries that this was a good work in which lay people might also join. Mrs. Little emphasised the suffering caused to Chinese girls by foot-binding, and said she could not see why, if any of them happened to hear of any cruel case of foot-binding in Hongkong, they should not prosecute the father and mother of the child under the law for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. (Hear, hear.) There were people there well qualified to say what the precise law of the colony was on the matter. If there was no law for the prevention of cruelty to children in Hongkong she hoped one would be speedily introduced. In conclusion she observed that she was particularly anxious they should have a branch of the society in Hongkong.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Little on the motion of Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., who remarked that that society was the best means possible for carrying out the objects in view. Laws would not effect any such change as Mrs. Little was seeking to effect. That change would only be brought about by influencing the minds of the Chinese and so far as his acquaintance with China and the Chinese were concerned, he considered that the society was taking the proper course to do this in appealing to them by means of literature.

A vote of thanks was accorded Lady Blake for her kindness in presiding, on the motion of the Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, and the meeting separated.

Mr. Gompertz gave his decision at the Magistracy on the 14th inst. in the case in which Yn Shan Tio and Chan Sg. the former being the manager and the other the keeper of the Chop Yik Godown, who were charged with storing explosives in the godown in question. It will be remembered that a disastrous fire took place there in December last. His Worship fined the manager \$100 and discharged the godown keeper.

RACING NOTES.

12th February.

The course on Saturday presented quite an animated scene, and the presence of a number of ladies lent to it enchantment. His Excellency the Governor was a conspicuous figure in attendance, at once the largest and most representative of the season. The morning was delightfully fine, and the work accomplished eminently satisfactory. The Derby candidates were on their best behaviour, and acquitted themselves so well, that the majority of the onlookers left the track with a conviction that the blue riband of the local turf will take a lot of winning. Even the most sanguine prophesiers were dubious about expressing opinions to which last week they gave unhesitating vent.

Not only those who have expressed their discontent, but the public generally will be pleased to learn that the Jockey Club has decided to revert to the old charges of admission. Instead of four dollars for each day, and ten for the meeting, the rate will be two and five dollars respectively.

An advance guard of the Shanghai sporting division in the persons of Messrs. James Keenan, Hoeg, and Wuillmier reached here yesterday. Mr. C. R. Burkill is en route, and others may be expected in a few days.

The Maiden Stakes' candidate Diplomat was the innocent cause of a little diversion during the morning. He had hardly left the mark for a once round gallop, when the girth severed, and the boy all unconscious of the fact proceeded on his way. He would probably have finished all right, had it not been for the intervention of the other maffios who with the pony's owner, objected to Diplomat being hammered with the flying strands. As soon as the rider's attention was directed to the mishap, he attempted to pull his mount up; this operation caused him to overbalance and land in the middle of the track. By immediately heading for home the pony displayed a disinclination to participate to any further extent in the morning's work. He was captured however and put through his facings later on. The boy seemed none the worse for his sudden introduction to the hard heath.

Modder, whose name is modestly at the bottom of the Derby list, attracted more attention than any other candidate on Saturday. His gallop, one of the fastest of the morning, was clocked with the greatest precision, and brought him more admirers than he has had hitherto. Although he appeared to waver a bit at the finish the performance was a good one, and if favoured with a slow run race, his brilliancy will make him a very formidable opponent. Storm King beat Pirate King pointless over a mile and three quarters. The latter carried Mr. Cox and at least a stone more in weight, so that too much importance must not be attached to the trial. Whilst the nominal favourite Thunderstorm was on view he was the cynosure of all eyes. Three twenty-eight was registered against his Derby distance the end of which was not impressive. Although not driven out with the whip he seemed to be going up and down in the one place as he neared the post, and it is doubtful if its application would have made him sustain a finish.

Strathcona was not out for time, but never the less did a gallop equally as good as the fastest of the morning. This pony is not being hustled off his legs, and as a result will be found going at the end of the classic journey when a good many of the others will be stopping. Staying is evidently his forte, and his owners realise the fact.

On account of a slow run Challenge Cup distance, the pessimistic are inclined to discount the chances of Rampant Rose, a pony that promises to become a public idol before the meeting is over. Four ten is certainly not fast time for the distance, but those who over estimate the performance and gamble their dollars accordingly, will probably regret it. The present indications are that Rampant Rose will not only beat more than beat him, but that whatever outstrikes him will win the Derby, and one or two other

events. It may be considered premature to speak so boldly about this nomination, but I look to events to justify my prognostication.

According to a reliable informant the literal interpretation of Ting Haou is very good or one of the best, and his nomenclator's wish was doubtless father to the thought when he determined that the pony should be distinguished by the appellation. In appearance Ting Haou does not belie his name, and his work so far leads to the reasonable belief that his performances will not do so either. The Derby may be too far for him and his rolling at the end of the mile and a half on Saturday, makes it rather palpable. Notwithstanding this, he is the possessor of whips of power, and will atone for any early defeat.

Bulbul, Black Prince, Dessert King and Strategist all did fairly good work, but the first three will have to do more than they have done hitherto to justify their inclusion in the probabilities. Nobody would begrudge the victory to the gentleman who owns Strategist, and his many friends have the satisfaction of knowing that his chances of annexing the coveted honour are by no means small.

Two of the most conspicuous ponies engaged at the forthcoming meeting are Tartar and Bandolero, the former is engaged in the Valley Stakes and the latter in the Foochow Cup and other races. Tartar has a strong aversion to work, and a disposition that will cause his early relegation to a gharry or something much heavier. Bandolero simply begs description, in color and conformation he closely resembles a mule, but in his ability to gallop he cannot be likened to anything but himself. Neither the Stakes, nor the Champions will fall to the lot of his owner; in fact if he ever appears in the van, it will only be on sufferance.

Impahla and Orange Blossom are gradually ingratiating themselves with the people who desire to find the winner of the fourth event on the opening day. Mr. Pogoses entry was credited with the fastest mile and a quarter of the day, and his finish was infinitely better than that of the favourite Sarton. Impahla clipped a second off the latter's time without the slightest trouble; he finished full of running and looked capable of taking on another quarter.

All the old ponies were restricted to useful long strong, none of them any particular time. Several questions will be asked them during the week, and the answers will be watched with a good deal of interest.

The student of time and the follower of track form will find food for thought in the detailed list appended. In order to give those inclined an opportunity to form an opinion for themselves, a similar list will be published after each galloping day.

14th February.

Although the weather yesterday morning was inviting enough to attract the most fastidious, the attendance at the track was not large, and the fair sex who have hitherto attended regularly were, with a few exceptions, conspicuous by their absence. The lack of attraction in the last respect was somewhat counteracted by the presence for the first time of all the riders, both Shanghai and local, who are going to participate at the forthcoming meeting. Shanghai was represented by Messrs. Burkill, W. W. Cox, Crawford, Cumming, Moller, Wuillmier and Jones, whilst Messrs. Gresson, Cox, Walwyn, Johnson and Hart Buck, did duty for Hongkong. The visitors are all in excellent trim, and the local men will have to look to their laurels if they desire to sustain a reputation for southern riders. Nothing was wanting in any of the form displayed during the morning, and the presence in the saddle of the amateurs certainly makes the work more interesting.

As the time of trial approaches the chances of the various candidates become more pronounced. Whilst many of their prospects are enhanced, others have become beautifully less. Yesterday's gallops confirm the previously formed impression that there are at least eight

ponies with a prospect of Derby success. Thunderstorm, Ting Haou, Rampant Rose, Strategist, Bulbul, Modder, Stormking, and last, but not least, Strathcona. There are those who imagine it possible to pick the result at once. To hazard an early guess for the present position makes it nothing more, the first named three might be mentioned specially, and it would be a strange coincidence if they were to finish in the order indicated.

Neither Rampant Rose nor Strategist were asked to do more than trotting work. Ting Haou and Thunderstorm, however, put in a mile and a half and a mile and three quarters respectively. Thunderstorm's gallop was particularly impressive, in fact nothing has so far been accomplished to beat, or even equal it. On Saturday at the end of a mile and a half he seemed to tire, but yesterday he finished the extra quarter with ease. Ting Haou, with Mr. Gresson to guide him tied his stable companion Corbie in a knot before a mile had been negotiated, and romped home a good seven lengths to the good, in 3.34, finishing the last quarter in 35. Strathcona left a useful mile behind him in 2.17, and finished at the right end. The other Derby candidates Bulbul and Forest King, worked in hood and sweaters. Modder tried conclusions with Tiber, and easily settled his pretensions in a mile and a quarter run in 2.53, or otherwise in the best time put up for the distance during the morning.

The trainer of the Amoy champion, Pluto, evidently believes in the old maxim of the early bird and the worm. Daylight had hardly asserted itself, when the brown started to add another mile and a half to his already long list of work. He fairly revelled in the gallop, and finished like the game little fellow he undoubtedly is. Shan-nu, who is the picture of health, carried Mr. W. W. Cox over Pluto's distance, making slightly better time.

When yesterday's training operations were over Mr. T. F. Hough, acting under instructions from the owner, submitted to public auction four Australian horses. Two of them attracted little or no attention the third was passed in at \$220, and the fourth purchased to Captain May at \$300. The purchase is a sweetly pretty mare, well worth her cost. She shows plenty of quality and appears to be as sound as a bell. Mr. Kennedy, who had had the handling of the walers since their arrival, has another gelding for sale, that only requires a little more time to develop into a ready seller.

Orange Blossom, Sarton and Impahla will be found a formidable trio when the Valley Stakes comes up for discussion, and unless somebody has a red in pickle the winner should come from one of the three. Rescue looks capable of winning a decent race and may have to be reckoned with, but the chances of those referred to are rosier. In a go with Dot Rose over the Stakes distance, Orange Blossom quite held his own and Sarton easily vanquished Cosack over a mile. Impahla and Rescue only spurted a short distance, the roan getting the best of it.

Last year's Lusitano Cup winner, Charger, is doing exceptionally well. His condition is all that can be desired and he will be worth watching whenever he starts. Rose de France, another of last year's performers, easily defeated Unique Rose in a mile gallop in 2.18. Ace of Hearts' record for a similar distance was 2.17, whilst the old pony Tea Rose, assisted by the griffin China Rose, took 2.27 to do the same distance.

15th February.

The arrangements for the meeting commencing on Tuesday next are almost complete, and nothing but elements of the most adverse description can prevent a successful issue. The race track and its surroundings are in excellent order, and Mr. T. F. Hough, the energetic clerk of the course, is sparring neither time nor trouble, in providing for his prospective patrons. The fields in nearly every instance will be sufficiently large to justify the anticipation of a good race, and the probabilities are that even the most exacting will not regret the expenditure of five dollars for the three days.

A little speculation is absolutely inseparable from a race meeting, and those who are disposed to back their fancy and risk the nimble dollar, are to be catered for and provided with facilities which will doubtless be appreciated.

The last gallop or two frequently causes a change of ideas, and good judges invariably await the grand finale, before venturing an opinion on the chances of any candidate. The indifferent display of one of this much fancied Derby nominations yesterday morning demonstrated the wisdom of this policy, and made many of the backers of the pony in question wish that they were disciples of the cautious waiters. Although Thundrstorm was an absentee, he still retains his position as a minimal favourite. Strathcona and Ting Hoon are now next in demand, and Modder's price is shortening. At the time of writing the four mentioned are the popular picks, and Strategist, although practically an unknown quantity over a long trial course, is also fancied.

Modder's name appears in the Maiden Stakes and also in the Derby list on the first day, carrying Mr. Jones, and probably his full weight he put up a gallop during the trials that impressed the most sceptical. The mile and two furlongs in 2:54 was good enough in itself, and the easy way in which he lobbed over the last quarter in 32 caused the most favourable comment. There is no reason in the world why the doughy little chestnut shouldn't stay, and if he does, the best of his opponents will have to take him into consideration in the Derby. That he will succeed one of the erstwhile favourites in popular estimation is absolutely certain, and the chances are shot a short price will be accepted about him on the day.

Rampant Rose, assisted by Unique Rose recorded four eleven for a mile and three quarters. A good deal of interest was displayed in the gallop, but the result was both slow and disappointing. A half mile from home the stable companions caught Diplomat, who had averaged half a mile, but the Maiden Stakes probability scampered away from them in the last furlong, and passed the post six lengths to the good. Diplomat will be worth watching in the opening event for griffins. He is doing well and gets over the distance handily.

The favourites for the Maiden Stakes and the German Cup are Dot Rose and Impahla respectively. In sprints over short courses Impahla always succumbs to the dual candidate Resene, but over longer distances he is superior to most of the tyros. Dot Rose usually works with a griffin hard to beat, at least up to a mile, and notwithstanding the fact that the latter had the best of their last mile trial, run in two nineteen and a half, his work justifies his position in popular fancy. Diplomat, another fancy, took three seconds longer to get over the same journey. Dot Rose's working partner Orange Blossom divides the Valley Stakes favouritism with the other chestnut Sarton. Blossoms' time is always the best, and his condition cannot be improved upon. Should Mr. Wheel-Rut elect to start Impahla in this race, both of the others will have to be at their best to beat him.

Rose de France in the capable hands of Mr. Woolmiser, put up a mile and a half in the best time recorded for the distance during the morning. To do the same work it took Strathcona three thirty-five, or 7 seconds longer. Shannon and Pluto both did useful work.

The detailed times are as follows:—

Tube Rose 1/4m.	32	9	03
White Rose 1/4m.	41	118	155 2 34 3 1 3 43
Storm King 1m.	34	111	145 2 16
Thistle 1m. last 1/4m.	37	114	146
Strathcona 1/4m.	39	144	150 2 16 3 02 3 35
Rampant Rose 1/4m.	36	111	147 22 2 7 3 34
Unique Rose 1/4m.	411		
Modder 1/4m.	37	112	146 2 22 2 54
Diplomat 1m.	36	111	149 2 22
Sarton 1/4m.	42	121	159 2 35 3 09
Rose de France 1/4m.	39	113	148 2 20 2 57 3 8
Pirate King 1/4m.	34	111	140 34 2 35
Shannon 1/4m.	40	112	159 2 36 3 10
Wood Pigeon			
Freelance 1/4m.	41	117	153 2 31 3 07 3 4
Snow King 1m.	37	112	146
Forest King 1/4m.	39	115	1 2 2 20 3 03

Orange Blossom	1m	35	111	145	2 19
Dot Rose					
Anora					
China Rose 1/4m. last 1/4m.			112		
Terra Verda 1/4m.		87	111	147	2 24 3 01
Esdale 1/4m.		88	112	147	2 21 2 52
Tom Thumb					
The Robber 1/4m.		86	113	151	2 28 3 03
Lukong 1/4m. last mile		40	118	155	2 27
Demon King 1m.		36	110	145	2 10
Tartar 1/4m.		32	108	145	

TRIDENT.

FOOTBALL.

SECOND ROUND OF THE SHIELD COMPETITION.

G. COY. ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS VERSUS HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

DEFEAT OF THE HOLDERS.

Teams:—

G. Coy R. W. F.:— Evans, goal, Jaspar and Murray, backs; Davies, Pounall, and Lewis, halves; and Williams, Cheatle, Boulton, Pugh and Jones, forwards.

Hongkong F. C.:— F. H. Kew, goal; H. W. Looker and H. Pinckney, backs; S. L. Jenkins, C. T. Kew, and W. H. Howard, halves; and A. C. Lowe, H. S. Moberley, J. F. Noble, H. C. R. Hancock and J. D. Danby, forwards.

Referee Mr. D. J. Gerrard.

In the first round G. Coy. put-out the V. R. C. team by 3 goals to nil and the Hongkong Club defeated 25 S. D., R. A. by 3 goals to 2.

This game took place on Saturday on the ground of the Hongkong Football Club in the presence of a large number of spectators. The Club was generally expected to win so the result, 2 to 1 in favour of the soldiers, was somewhat a surprise. G. Company won, and though the referees should have disallowed their first goal, for it was most decidedly offside, but for all that their attacks on goal were splendid and with a less capable custodian than Kew against them they would have chalked up two or three more goals. Their players were all in splendid condition and their forwards and halves were all speedy, and gluttons for work.

The style of play they adopted too, proved very effective. Their back kept close in goal and their halves never got far beyond the centre line nor followed up their forwards too closely. They always maintained a close defence and fed their forwards, who kept well up the field, with well judged long kicks. By this means the forwards often got possession with only the backs to beat and scooped down in a mass on their opponent's goal.

It was in the beginning of the game that they were most dangerous, and all the damage was done in the first fifteen minutes. They got the Club "on the hop" so to speak and the score stood 2 to nil ere the latter realized it. The first goal was really no goal at all, for apparently every one on the field excepting the referee was aware that the rule of side rule had been infringed. The outside right of G had the ball returned to him when lying right behind Pinckney, and the Club players were so confident of their appeal that they did not attempt to defend, and Kew allowed the ball to reach the net without attempting to stop it. That this was foolish it is unnecessary to remark.

This reverse caused the Club to buck up a little but still they did not appear to realize the gravity of their position and the soldiers continued to be the best eleven.

Looker was very weak at back and the Fusiliers soon found this out, playing on him continually. The left wing often beat him and if Jenkins and C. T. Kew had not worked hard to cover his deficiencies, the club would have suffered much at this time. The Club forwards got away in good style and Noble put in a fine shot, but soon the play was at the other end again and the Club goal had a narrow squeak.

Then Looker failed to judge a dropping ball with his head and the Fusilier forwards were clean through again, the inside right making the score 2 to 0. After this the Club exerted some pressure and in a little while Noble sent in a shot along the ground which although apparently of the simplest description was quite good enough to beat Evans, the Welsh

goalkeeper. The ball had some spin on it and striking the post twisted in. This success gave new vigour to the Club and they had much the best of matters to half time, Howard and Lowe placing two corner kicks excellently and Noble, Howard and Lowe making fine shots. Howard had very hard lines with his effort as it struck the cross bar. G. Coy. were not idle and placed the Club goal in jeopardy more than once. F. Kew made a couple of smart saves and one of them, which came in off Pinckney, he did particularly well to stop.

Half time Co. 2 goals
Hongkong F. Club 1 goal

The second half of the game was considerably in favour of the Club in the open and for some time after the interval they looked likely to draw level at any moment but the Fusiliers defended well and were away to the other goal at every opportunity. Then for a while the civilians seemed to lose hope and play became somewhat slow, but by and bye as time wore on they pulled up again and tried very hard. Looker tried a change in the forwards, putting Lowe centre, Noble inside right and Moberley outside right. Moberley was much better after this and placed a beautiful centre to Hancock, who with the goal apparently at his mercy was dispossessed.

A foul was given against Evans for running with the ball but danger was removed. Play was poor for a little while; then the Club pressed again but unsuccessfully. Danby and Moberley got in some good centres but Noble was the only forward able to manage any shots. The best efforts in this direction however came from Chad Kew who made a couple of very fine attempts. Before the finish G's forwards put in warm work at the other end and gave F. H. Kew a lively time. Looker in attempting to stop one shot diverted it to the corner of the goal but was on it at once and kept it out. There was no further score the game ending:—

G. Co. R. W. F. 2 goals
Hongkong F. C. 1 goal

G. Company will now have to meet the Hongkong Engineers in the semi-final and as both teams are confident of winning we are bound to have a fine contest. The Fusilier team's display on Saturday much surprised many.

It is very evenly balanced team indeed and there is no call to praise one man above another. Evans the goalkeeper, should have saved the point against him but otherwise he did well and stopped many good shots.

The Club halves were all strong but the forwards were not at their best. It took Moberley some time to settle into his position, and the whole five did not get going until it was too late. Noble and the left wing were the best but none of them were in shooting form.

Lately it has been the custom to appoint the weakest referees for the most important matches because none of our qualified men have been eligible to act. Messrs. Mayson, A. C. R. Greene, R. A. Loo, er and J. A. Ross are about the only really competent men I know of and all of these are members of the Hongkong F. C. so were not eligible to act on Saturday; but there are plenty here who would with a little study of the rules and a good deal of practice develop into competent officials. The matter is however neglected or the suggestion made in these columns on Oct. 30th last would have received more attention. The idea suggested was adopted to some extent about a month ago when a list of official referees was published, but this was done too late in the season.

Though prosecution under the new Ordinance for the Protection of Women and Girls have only been instituted since the 8th of December, 1899, about 40 cases have already been before the Magistrate, and fines amounting in the aggregate to about \$150 imposed. Four cases were dealt with on Thursday. Three of the defendants were fined \$50 each, the fourth being discharged.

On Tuesday a constable, while patrolling Kennedy Road, saw a body on the hillside between Kennedy Road and Bowen Road. On examining it he found it to be that of a Japanese, apparently about 25 years of age. There was a piece of crape round the neck and another piece hanging from a hill just above. The man had evidently committed suicide by hanging. The body was removed to the mortuary.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

DORIS CUP.

The race for this cup, kindly presented by Mrs. W. W. Campbell, owner of the Doris, was sailed on Saturday. The course was round the Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rocks and North Fairway Buoy, all to port. The handicap was as follows:

Marjorie, Bonito and Maid Marian allowed
Iris, Erica, Doreen, Gloria and
Chanticleer 1 min. 40 sec.
Active, Meteor, Sybil 3 .. 20 ..
Dart, Payne, Ladybird,
Princess, Mistle 6 .. 41 ..

There were fitful airs from the N.E. and before the starting gun all the yachts were anchored close on the line in line ahead. The starter was 35 seconds late with the starting gun, causing Active to be over the line at gun-fire, but the flood dropped her back to the right side and she lost little if anything by the mistake. Had the yachts been starting under way, however, such a serious discrepancy might have had serious effects on the ultimate result of the race.

Some very pretty cross tacking ensued among the yachts till Blackheads Point was reached, when Bonito shaped a more southerly course finding for a time a better wind. Her example was gradually followed by the rest with the exception of Iris and Gloria, who kept well to the northward in the hope of catching the first of the Northerly puffs out of Kowloon Bay. Their judgment proved the best, as they both caught Bonito, which had strung out a good lead at the channel rocks, close to which the Bonito, coming up from the southward, got into a soft patch.

Iris was first round the rocks, followed closely by Gloria, with Bonito well up, the rest having got badly left off North Point, being a considerable distance behind. It was almost a close hauled fetch to the Kowloon rocks, but as the mark was approached the wind broke the yachts off and a short board was necessary to round the mark. Here Bonito, which had been sailing somewhat faster in the light wind and favoured by a friendly puff, caught Iris, both yachts having out-sailed Gloria in the light wind. Iris went under Bonito's stern to get the weather berth on rounding. On rounding Spinnakers were set to starboard and Iris ran into first place again. The yachts dragged slowly down to Hunghom Point where Bonito was caught by Maid Marian, which, with most of the others, had run up with a little better air.

Iris shaped a course across the mouth of Hunghom Bay for the Police Pier, most of the others going outside her when they did not fare so well, except Meteor, who took an outside course, which brought her into second place.

At the Police Pier Iris was hung up for a time before she caught a new wind from the North-west, and Meteor, Erica and Gloria got very close to her.

It was now a few minutes after 5 p.m., and the Maid and Bonito, when to leeward in the centre of the harbour gave up, the others racing against time to the Fairway Buoy to try to finish before the time limit at 6 o'clock.

Iris maintained her lead and finished a minute before 6 p.m., the Doreen being second and Meteor third. Gloria had fouled the Fairway Buoy, which put her out of the race.

The times of finishing the race were as follows:—

	h.	m.	s.	
Iris	5	57	43	(2)
Doreen	5	58	3	(3)
Meteor	5	59	6	(1)
Gloria	6	0	53	
Erica	6	4	1	
Princess	6	11	12	

The Meteor then won the cup by time, Iris being second.

The Japanese line-of-battle ship *Asahi*, now under construction at Lord Armstrong and Company's works, to order of the Japanese Government, is expected to have concluded all her trials before the end of June, in which case she will sail for Japan in July. Commander Iida and 300 men, the second detachment of the crew that is to bring her out, are on the eve of starting for England. The *Asahi* is a sister ship of the *Shikishima*, which is now en route for Japan.

SHOOTING.

CUP COMPETITION YESTERDAY.

The following are the principal scores (plus handicaps) in the fourth monthly shooting of "C" Company of the Hongkong Volunteers for the "Potts" and "Gubbay" Cups:—

*Gunner McCorquodale ..	31	34	39	95
* .. Baldwin ..	28	32	31	91
Lieut. Duncan ..	30	33	23	86
Gunner Haskell ..	25	30	26	81
Lieut. Underwood ..	31	15	33	79
Gunner J. Lee ..	31	22	21	75

Gunner McCorquodale registers a win on Captain Potts' Cup

*Winners of spoons.

THE ROYAL ARTILLERY GYMKANNA.

Yesterday afternoon there were assembled on the Polo Grounds upwards of one thousand people to witness the sports enumerated below in connection with the Royal Artillery Gymkana. The contests for the different events were exciting and fully appreciated by rounds of applause from the onlookers. The Band of the Royal Fusiliers, under Bandmaster Moir, played several operatic and national airs, which added greatly to the pleasure of the occasion. The following was the programme:—

OBSTACLE RACE; for ladies on bicycles; each lady to be accompanied by a swain, who will also ride a bicycle and help his partner over the obstacles.

Ten ladies and gentlemen started for this, and among other obstacles they had to face was a pond of water about four feet wide. Mrs. Wild pluckily rushed her bike through the water, and came home first. Miss Vernon got off her machine and jumped across, and secured second honors, while Miss Blake came in third.

Mrs. and Mr. Wild	1
Miss Vernon and Mr. Johnson ..	2
Miss Blake and Mr. Green	3

PENT-PEGGING and Lemon Cutting with Swords; teams of two, 3 runs; 6 points given for pace and style; 3 points for a carry; 2 for a draw; 3 for a touch 3 for cutting the lemon.

Captain Simonds R.A., and Mr. Mulliken R.A., won, their score being 32 points.

DEPATCH RACE, man to run with a letter to a given point, where he will hand it to a horseman, who will give him a written receipt; the horseman will mount, ride to the next point, hand the letter to a bicyclist, obtaining a receipt in writing, the latter riding to the next point, where he will obtain a receipt from the lady, who will bicycle to the finish; bicyclists and horsemen not to mount until receiving the letter at which time the receipts are to be written; receipts to be produced; paper and pencils provided.

This was a most amusing and exciting event. When the different ladies started for the winning post there was great applause for Miss Vernon, as she put on a terrific spurt and came in the winner.

LLOYD LINDSAY RACE (on ponies); teams of three to ride over selected course to a given point; two to dismount, fire with revolvers at six bottles until all the bottles are broken or knocked over; the third to hold the ponies without dismounting. They will then remount and ride back over course to finish; the team taking the shortest time will be the winners; revolvers taking Government ammunition to be used; ammunition will be provided; no competitor to remount until all the bottles are broken; competitor to load revolvers on arriving at the firing point.

Capt. Simonds, Capt. Bland and Mr. Mulliken won. Time 2.27. Capt. Simonds succeeded in breaking five out of the six bottles.

LLOYD LINDSAY RACE (on bicycles); each team to consist of two ladies and two gentlemen; ride to a given spot, dismount, and knock over nine-pins with sticks. The team taking the shortest time will be the winners. All the pins to be knocked over.

When it came to knocking over the pins there were roars of laughter at the eagerness of the ladies. Madames Barrett and Badeley, Captain Anderson, H.K.R., and Lieut. Barrett constituted the winning team.

POLO BALL RACE; competitors to hit off from the goal line at one end, take the ball down the ground, through the opposite goal, and back through the original goal.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead beat his younger rivals handsomely.

POLO BALL RACE (on bicycles); for Midshipmen; Hockey Sticks to be used, and the distance will be once down the ground and through the goal.

The first prize was won by Mr. Fipps and the second by Mr. Goddard. Both gentlemen, we believe, belong to H.M.S. *Victoria*.

TANDEM RACE; ride one pony and drive another once round the Polo Ground.

Major Sir H. Meashon drove his team home to victory.

Lady Blake presented the prizes to the respective winners.

MORE PIRACIES ON THE CA T N RIVER.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 10th February

CATTLE STOLEN.

On the 17th January last four Linchow boats laden with over one hundred head of cattle on their way to Ching-yuin, about Pa Kong river, were attacked by about forty to fifty pirates, armed, who came from the village of Chick Yuin. All the horns and hoofs of the cattle were stamped with the marks of the owners. They were taken away by the pirates into the village, and upon the owner petitioning the magistrate an order was issued for the seizure of the cattle. Soldiers went into the village and found a number of cattle marked with the same marks, but the marks on the horns were scraped off leaving those on the hoofs untouched. Thereupon the soldiers drove the cattle back to the yamen and by order of the magistrate returned them to their owners. Several pirates have been arrested, tried and put to torture, revealing the names of several others who had escaped.

THE EFFECT OF THE ALARM GONG.

On the 24th four boats laden with sundry goods on their way to Ching-yuin were also attacked by several snake boats manned by pirates. The boat people fought bravely and several pirates were wounded and three captured and brought to trial. The crew of the boats were rewarded by the magistrate with two hundred dollars for their bravery, and on the 27th, when these boats were sailing towards Yunk-fak, a gang of pirates again sallied forth from Pa Kong and attacked them. One of the crew jumped overboard and swam ashore to give the alarm. On the villagers sounding the alarm gongs the people and braves collected together, and being armed drove the pirates off. The pirates knew they were no match, in numbers for the villagers and fled, leaving behind their booty.

PIRATES AGAIN DEFEATED.

Two large boats were regularly employed by the rice-guilds of Canton to convey rice to Chun Chuan, and it was agreed between the boats and the rice guilds that if the former could preserve the full cargo of rice from being robbed they were to get as reward 1 per cent. on the proceeds of the cargo. Consequently the boats were well armed. On the 24th ultimo when the two boats were sailing together for mutual protection several snake boats, manned by over one hundred pirates, came in sight, and attacked them. The men in the boats fought hard while the women loaded the guns which were fired at the pirates. Two snake boats were sunk by the shots and a few pirates killed, and the people on board proved victorious over the pirates, some of whom jumped into the water and disappeared while others escaped in the remaining snake boats. One of the crew of the rice boat was killed and several others wounded. The value of the cargo was over one thousand dollars, so the percentage the crew received as reward from the rice-guild was over one hundred dollars.

On the same day two other lime boats were also attacked somewhere in the Fa-yuin. The captain of one of the boats went ashore and reported the robbery to the commandant of the black-flags. The black-flags attacked the pirates, who beat a retreat. One pirate was killed and two were arrested and brought to trial.

A PROCLAMATION BY LI HUNG CHANG.

Sometime last year the district of Fayuin was very much disturbed by bands of robbers, of whom Tongchan was the chief. As he and his gang are still at large doing great mischief at sea and on land, the gentry of the villages have presented petitions to H.E. Li Hung Chang, the Viceroy of Canton, requesting troops to be sent to repress the brigandage and piracy in that district and its vicinity; thereupon H.E. issues a proclamation of which the following is a translation:—

"Upon reading the petitions presented I find that the city town Kuukai is contiguous with the districts of Fayuin and Samsui. As the pirate chief Tongchan and his associates are still at large attacking and robbing passenger boats and junks, I was asked to send the commandant, Cheangyouchai, with one or two hundred soldiers of the Au regiment to guard and protect the city town, and also order two guard boats to proceed to Mankao for the purpose of cruising about so as to hunt down the pirates for the protection of the merchants. Upon enquiry I also find that the cause of the land and sea being infested, importuned and almost blockaded by robbers and pirates during these few years is wholly attributed to the negligence and remissness of the local authorities, civil as well as military, in making arrest, and also to the fact that the army has been reduced and pay diminished; consequently there have not been men sufficient to guard all the places. Since I have taken up the post of Viceroy in Canton I am pretty well convinced that the thieves and robbers are a source of great injury to the welfare of the people; therefore it is necessary that I should appoint competent officials to the different places to hunt them down for the preservation of peace and good order. I must use all possible means and lose no time to raise money and soldiers to attain my aim and end. As to the request of despatching the Commandant Cheangyouchai with troops to station there, and sending guardboats for cruising, I should have granted it; but as the commandant has not yet succeeded in destroying the brigands in the district of Saichew, the forces under him are not sufficient for that purpose. As to sending the gunboats I find that since the crews have been reduced, most of the oars, ropes and other things are rotten and useless; consequently I am thinking of having them replaced. Even if I were to send them now they are not strong enough to equalize the force of the robbers. So, taking all the circumstances into consideration, I have to delay for a little time before I can take any effective step. I have given orders to the General Kwang-Yih and Chung-Yih together with the Commandant Cheang, to be prepared to go and make a trial, and in case of urgency I shall send a large body of troops. Let the provincial judge, the magistrates and garrisons take notice."

OFFICIAL CALLS.

On the 8th inst. H.E. the Viceroy Li Hung Chang went to made returned official calls to all the Consuls in Shameen in a long procession, preceded by flag bearers, gongs and a regiment of soldiers drilled after foreign fashion. H.E. was in a chair carried by eight bearers, followed by his secretary and interpreter and a long retinue, and the rear was brought up by cavalry.

A BIG FIRE.

On the night of the 7th inst at about 3 o'clock, a big fire took place in the city, which lasted four hours. Between two and three hundred houses were destroyed. As the season was dry, and there was a northerly wind blowing and no water available, the fire rapidly spread and covered several streets.

The following appointments appear in the *Government Gazette*:—Honourable Francis Henry May, C.M.G., to be Acting Colonial Secretary and Acting Registrar General. Francis Joseph Badeley to be Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, Acting Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, and Acting Superintendent of the Fire Brigade. Inspector Alexander Mackie to be Acting Deputy Superintendent of Police and Acting Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade. Arthur Wimbolt Brewin to be a member of the Legislative Council.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 13th February.

THE PIRACIES—CHINESE AUTHORITIES CONTEMPLATE ACTION.

A native paper, *Pok Man Po*, of the 10 inst., says that on account of the prevalent robbery and piracy which is a source of great inconvenience and injury to travellers and merchants up the West River, the English Government intend to despatch gunboats there for the protection of their merchant; but as this step seems an encroachment upon the sovereignty of China, H. E. the Viceroy Li Hung Chang has given strict orders for the arrest of bad characters and the punishment of those who are responsible for the peace and good order of the locality. Now we have heard that the generals of Chung Hip and Pan Hip, together with the commandants of the different regiments of Canton, have devised some means, which is as follows:—The West River is marked out as two tributaries or streams, the upper and the lower streams. Each stream is divided into six sections, and in each section there will be a gunboat and a guardboat for its protection, with additional soldiers of several tens to each of the boats, guarding and cruising about days and nights. In case of robbery in which the offender has not been arrested, the official responsible for the peace and good order of that locality shall be noted for minor offence, and in case of serious offence he shall be degraded for negligence in not endeavouring to make arrest.

RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERERS FROM THE FRENCH BOMBARDMENT.

Last year on account of the French taking possession of Kwang Chow Wan, and on the natives opposing them with force of arms all the places were destroyed, H.E. the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has sent deputy officials to examine into these premises, and ordered 3,000 taels to be distributed among the poor in commiseration of their destitution. In the village of Wong Leok over 1,500 houses and huts were burned or destroyed, for which he gives 1,900 taels, compensation to the families of those who suffered 400 taels, for 135 houses burned in the Sun Po and Tung-kee he gives 140 taels. These donations are to be paid out by the officials and gentry of the respective villages.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

TIENTSIN, 29th January, 1900.

Affairs in Peking are in a critical condition; and the recent edicts leave very little doubt as to the nature of the crisis—the actual or virtual deposition of Kwang Sen. The nomination of the youthful Pu Chen as the heir apparent by adoptive affiliation marks an important step: we may now see Kwang Sen disappear quickly or slowly from the political field. If the Manchus desire to keep face with the outside world the process will be gradual; but if his friends in the Camp show any desposition to rally, his weakly health may be expected to develop into a galloping decline.

Little or nothing is at present known outside the Palace of the character and ability of the new aspirant to the Dragon Throne. Manchu and Chinese critics who affect to be scrupulous legitimists are expressing their satisfaction that he is at least the proper "Generation." Manchu succession ought to be strictly lineal by generation and not collateral: i.e., a brother cannot succeed, though a brother's child may do so. Sterility makes no difference in this, as an adopted child has all the privileges of a real son. Kwang Sen's nomination to the succession was in violation of this traditional sequence, and hence, according to the purists, the wrath of Heaven on his administration.

There has apparently been some anxiety in Manchu circles about the possible action of the Foreign Powers about these changes. Ten days ago all the Ministers were hurriedly sent for; they went down to the Yamen at an unprecedented hour. It is freely bruited abroad that the communication concerned Pu Chen's

adoption, but others do not hesitate to add that Kwang Sen's immediate abdication (!) was also intimated. This is of course the mere guessing of the political quid nuncs.

How such an astounding report can have arisen I do not know, but during the last few days the natives of Tientsin have stoutly maintained that four Russian battalions of infantry and two or three batteries of artillery had landed at Shan Hai Kwan: not a few foreigners have given credit to this preposterous fiction. The truth of such a report is of course easily ascertainable here, as we are in daily train communication with the North, to say nothing of the telegraph. The moment the falsehood was disproved, the newsmongers changed it into the statement that these forces were all ready for embarkation at Port Arthur. This modified form of the news found some credence even among the well informed. Personally, I fail to see the remote possibility of such a movement in the existing relations between Russia and Japan, unless these powers have come to a misunderstanding. A few foreigners in Peking profess to think that the Dowager has come to a secret arrangement with the Northern Power by which further territorial cession is to be the reward of present support. I need not add that there is no violence whatever to support this belief; the public is in such an excited state that every wild suggestion finds wide credence. The man-in-the street is under the firm conviction that Kwang Sen is to be formally deposed to-morrow by force.

The timid in Peking and Tientsin are just now under another scare—that of the Boxers. The local press, both vernacular and foreign, is not on this subject so well informed as usual, and is doing not a little to increase the uneasy feeling. The *Peking and Tientsin Times* in its last issue states that letters from Chinese friends say that the Boxers are pouring into the Capital, and that an attack on the foreigners is contemplated during the New Year. Those best acquainted with Chinese opinion and movements in the province scout such statements as the mere outcome of foolish fear. The Boxers, or I Ho Chuan, are bad enough in their present aspect without being promoted into a foreigner's bogie. Our last real news about them is for the moment a little more reassuring. The atrocious murder of Mr. Brooks, of the S. P. C. instead of being an incentive to further villanies seems to have had an opposite effect. The Big-Swords have in many places dispersed *pro tem*, and the magistrates are plucking up courage not only to protect the native Christians but even to make restitution to them for injuries received. There was a horrible fear from an ambiguous word in one of the official despatches on the murder of Mr. Brooks that he had actually been crucified. This point is now cleared up, the word *chia* (?) framed) referred to the usual disposition of the corpse in a coffin and not to the torture of the living body on a cross. As the case really was, no increase of atrocity by fiction was needed to make the story more appalling. They submitted the brave lad, for such indeed he was, to mutilation and indignity by cutting off his ears and nose (or slitting his nostrils) and by clothing him in offensive rags, before finally cutting off his head.

Some of the missionaries here are dubious as to the expediency of donning Chinese clothes under the circumstances attending Mr. Brook's journey. Such clothes are of course no disguise. In this case it is suspected that the Boxers' rage was chiefly directed against a Mission of which men habitually dress in Chinese style, and that Mr. Brooks was mistaken for one of them. This may be so, but it in no way lessens the heinousness of the crime.

The annual meetings of the two Municipal bodies governing the Concession and the Extension were held last week. The senior body is acting as nursing mother to the junior. The latter is busy making roads, &c., &c., without an income, as a period of three years immunity from taxation was given to all Chinese owners, renters and residents. This period expires on March 31st, 1900. The reports show steady expansion and progress in British Tientsin. During the decade 1890-99 mooring fees have increased from Tls. 5,800 to Tls. 11,100; Bund Rent from Tls. 8,100 to Tls. 11,100; jinnickshaw licences from Tls. 830 to Tls. 1,000; trolley fees

from Tls.0 to Tls.1,800; steam tonnage (standing cargo) in 1890 was 294,429, it is now 477,101, while sailing tonnage has completely disappeared. The average size of vessels has risen from 810 tons to 1,020.

The chief features of the meetings were (1) the decision to admit the Tientsin Water-works supply to the 'Extension'; (2) The progress of the Pei Ho (improvement Works, for the carrying out of which the Municipal Council went bail for Tls.150,000. The works are now well in hand; locks are being put on to the great creeks which take all the water from the river, and the stream itself is being trained in some reaches. The closure of the first lock above Tientsin city a fortnight ago was within two days followed by a two-foot increase in the depth of the channel. Apart from the River Loan the obligations of the Concession are less than Tls.40,000; both these and the river loan are automatically extinguishing themselves at a rapid rate. The balance of assets over liabilities is Tls.127,000. Our population and inhabited houses have doubled themselves in six years. It is pleasant to record with all this that the community is taxed to about one-third the extent of Hongkong residents.

Just now pleasure is king: the winter has been more than usually cold and fine. We have had Italian skies and low thermometers for eight weeks and no dust storms.

The old Scottish sport of curling has been added to our very extensive list of amusements. This week sees the struggle between the youth of Peking and Tientsin for supremacy in the two kinds of foot ball and in hockey.

Virulent small pox has broken out in the little foreign community of Tong Shan (coal port) and has already carried off two much esteemed men, Messrs. Short and Hoare. Both were stout anti-vaccinationists; the unvaccinated are so far the only victims.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs	lbs
Yokohama	26,039,571	24,963,397
Kobe	13,967,750	13,658,363
	39,947,321	38,621,760

SILK.

CANTON, 2nd February.—Silk.—Tantlees and Re-reels.—No settlements are reported. Offers of new season's silk sent at the quotations given below met with no response. Filatures.—The high prices asked by the dealers checked business completely, and almost nothing has been done during the fortnight. Apart from the Chinese New Year holidays, the market has remained under the influence of the steadily weakening rates in Lyons no interest whatever being shown in the offers made. Short-reels.—For America have been in better demand, and about 200 bales of Best 2 and No. 2 chops have been settled at about \$20 per picul over last quotations. Waste.—There is absolutely no market, and prices quoted are only nominal. Appended are quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons. Exchange 4 months' sight, 2½ and Feb. 2.52 per Dollar.

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—The market is weak and the prices are declining. Quotations for Formosa are \$8.50 to \$81.00; sales 35 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—A slight decline in price has been reported, market being a little weaker. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$8.35 to \$8.40	cl.
do. " 2, White...	7.60 to 7.65	..
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.55 to 5.60	pc.
do. " 2, Brown...	5.35 to 5.40	..
Swatow, No. 1, White...	8.10 to 8.15	..
do. " 1, White...	7.35 to 7.40	..
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.25 to 5.30	..
do. " 2, Brown...	5.15 to 5.20	..
Foochow Sugar Canton...	12.05 to 12.10	..
Shekloong " "	10.05 to 11.00	..

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, sailed on the 8th February. For Trieste:—100 bales pierced cocoons and 25 boxes staranised. For Trieste/Marseilles:—30 bales pierced cocoons. For Odessa:—25 cases staranised. For Genoa:—15 bales raw silk. For Antwerp:—66 bales feathers and 5 bales rattancore. For Amsterdam:—30 rolls matting, 11 cases Chinaware, 1 case hardware. For Amsterdam/Rotterdam:—100 boxes cussia cugna, and 20 boxes preserves. Rotterdam:—16 rolls matting, 2 cases palm leaf fans and 1 case teasticks. For Bremerhaven:—19 cases blackwoodware. For London:—2 cases essential oil and 2 boxes bristles. For Bremen:—4 cases merchandise and 1 case cigars. For Hamburg:—17 bales feathers, 30 slabs tin, 3 cases cigars, and 1 case silk. For Hamburg/Copenhagen:—28 bales rattancore.

Per steamer *Salazie*, sailed on the 12th Feb. For Marseilles:—10 bales raw silk 5 cases curries, 2 rolls matting, and 6 packages sundries. For Lyons:—5 bales raw silk. For Havre:—100 packages bambooware.

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—Bengal.—There has been a good demand for this drug though rates have experienced a slight decline. Patna is now quoted at \$9.54 and Benares at \$10.5.

Malwa.—There has been no change to report in this market, closing quotations being:—

New at \$9.45 with allowance to 1 catty	low last year at \$9.50	11
Old at \$8.50		14

Persian.—There has not been any change during the interval and rates are unaltered. Latest quotations are:—Only at \$8.20 and Pap-r-ti at \$6.50 to \$7.50 according to quality.

Today's stocks are estimated as under:—

Patna	1,048 chests
Benares	170 "
Malwa	427 "
Persian	1,751 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old
1899	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 10	970		1010		940	
Feb. 11	967½	—	1010		940	
Feb. 12	965		1005		940	
Feb. 13	965		1005		940	
Feb. 14	965		1005		940	
Feb. 15	957½	—	1005		940	
Feb. 16	968½	—	1005		940	

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—A fair business has passed, with a rise of ¼ to ½. Stock about 3,100 bales.

Bombay	23.00 to 24.50 picul.
Kurrachee	— to — "
Bengal (New), Rangoon, /	23.50 to 24.25 picul.
and Dacca	
Shanghai and Ja. anese, ..	26.50 to 27.00 "
Fungehow and Ningpo.....	26.50 to 27.50 "
Ma. ras (Best)	—
Sales: 900 bales.	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—Large arrivals having come forward, the prices are going downward. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.00 to 3.05
" Round, Good quality	3.30 to 3.35
" Long	3.42 to 3.48
Siam, Field, well cleaned, No. 2 ..	3.25 to 3.30
" Garden, " No. 1 ..	3.59 to 3.63
" White	8.65 to 8.70
" Fine Cargo	4.20 to 4.25

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn:—250 bales No. 10 at \$86 to \$91, 20 bales No. 12 at \$88 to \$91, 50 bales No. 16 at \$100, 200 bales No. 20 at \$102, to \$110. Grey Shirtings—3,000 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss No. 1 at \$3.61, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$3.17½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Seal at \$3.67½, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Ticket at \$4.70, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. 4 Dragons at \$3.52½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Seal at \$3.65, 600 pieces 10 lbs. Palm

Chop at \$4.85, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$2.90, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Seal at \$3.25, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dragons at \$3.80. White Shirtings:—500 pieces White Shirting 67½ Blue Ship at \$5.00, 500 pieces do. A at \$6.15, 500 pieces do. M at \$5.80, 500 pieces O Chop at \$5.50, 3,200 pieces Mat at \$7.20, 400 pieces White Shirtings, Blue Lion at \$7.30, 500 pieces do. Flower chop at \$5.90, 500 pieces do. S Q at \$5.25, 500 pieces White Shirtings, Blue Lion at \$6.27½, 500 pieces S Q at \$4.27½, 500 pieces 60 at \$5.35, 500 pieces S Q at \$3.24, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$7.10, 500 pieces Gold Tiger at \$7.65, 1,000 pieces O O at \$6.10, 600 pieces No. 1 at \$7.20, 600 pieces No. 2 at \$7.65, 500 pieces S Q at \$5.35, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$1.70, 00 pieces 600 at \$5.35, 100 pieces Blue Lion at \$7.37½, 500 pieces Flower chop at \$5.92½, 2,000 pieces Fox and Duck at \$40.50, 100 pieces 5 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.85, 100 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.87½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. C C at \$4.00, 700 pieces 7 lbs. B B at \$2.70, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.80, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. V V at \$3.47½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. X X at \$3.52½. Bengal Cotton:—100 bales at \$2.50, 70 bales at \$2.50, 100 bales at \$2.50, 70 bales at \$2.50.

MEALS.—Quicksilver: 150 flasks at \$176. Iron: 840 pieces square and round bars at \$6.62½, 2,000 bundles half round rods at 7.75 to arrive, 500 cases round rods at 7.40 to arrive.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG 16th February.—The market has been active during the week and a fair business has been transacted in most stocks at steady rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai continue quiet with shares on offer at 333 per cent prem. and small sales at 333 and 332 per cent prem. for cash. No time business has been reported. Nationals have slightly improved to \$26. This Bank advertises its general meeting for 10th March and proposes to pay a dividend of \$1.36 per share.

MARINE INSURANCES.—A few Cantons and Unions have changed hands at quotations. China Traders Straits and the Northern Insurances continue dull and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to \$350 after small sales at \$335, \$340 and \$345. China Fires have found further buyers at \$89, closing with sellers at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remain very quiet with only small sales at \$29½ and \$29½. Indes have been on offer during the week at \$87 without inducing much business. Douglasses have changed hands at \$47, \$47½ and \$48, closing steadily at the last rate. China Manilla have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$97, \$98 and \$99, closing with buyers at the last rate. China Mutuals are still enquired for at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been in some demand but very few shares are obtainable. A few small parcels have been placed at \$18, and \$18½ and later at \$18½ and \$18 and there is still a small unsatisfied demand at the last rate. Luzons continue dull, unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms after sales at \$5.70, \$5.75 and \$5.80 have improved to \$5.90. Charbonages unchanged and without business. Oliver B's have changed hands at \$170, Jolebus at \$13½, Raubs at \$62.62 and \$63 and Caledonians at \$90 all in unimportant lots. The mining market generally has ruled dull.

LOCKS, WHARVES AND GOD WNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue to rule quiet with little or no business. Sellers during the week at \$547½ have ruled the market. Kowloon Wharfs have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$84 and \$83½ and later at \$84½ and \$85 cash, and at \$84½, \$85 and \$85½ for March. Market closing steadier at \$85. Wancha's unchanged and without business. Amoy Docks unchanged.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled very firm and in good request. A large number of shares have changed hands at rates from \$117½ to \$112, the market still ruling steady at the higher rate. On time sales were reported in the early part of the week at \$121 and \$12 for April and at \$120 for March. Kowloon Lands remain unchanged and without business. Hotels continue quiet but steady at \$126 at which rate small sales are reported. West Point continue in good request and have changed hands at \$41, \$41½ and \$42 cash and at \$43 for April. Humphreys have ruled quieter with sellers, sales and buyers at

\$94, closing with buyers at \$9.25. The management proposes to pay a dividend of 50 cents per share and to carry forward \$4,873.83 against a sum of \$519.03 carried forward last year.

COTTONS.—No change on business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have changed hands at \$28½ and \$28¼. Watsons at \$17. Fenwicks at \$50. Ices at \$167½ and China Providents at \$9.25 and \$9.35. China Borneos are enquired for at \$16 and Tramways at \$155 without any shares into the market.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$541.25, sellers]
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	333 p. ct. prem.,=
China & Japan, ord.	£4	£1, buyers
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$26, sellers
Four. Shares	£8	\$1.6, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$16
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.35, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$1.31
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls 100	Tls 60.
International	Tls 100	Tls 70.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls 100	Tls 69.
Soychee	Tls 500	Tls 375.
Yahloong	Tls 100	Tls 55.
Hongkong	\$100	\$37, sales
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$6, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$2, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$0	\$28½, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$11½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$00	\$155, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$126, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$167½, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$0	\$5, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$3½, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$47½, prem.
Insurance—		[\$208.75, sellers]
Canton	\$30	\$13, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$89, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$56, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$30, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls 18.
Straits	\$20	\$3, sellers
Union	\$50	\$235, seller
Yangtze	\$60	\$117½, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$12½, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9.25, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$26, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$4, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$46.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs 250	\$350
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$0	\$90, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$40, sales, New Shares
Jebeu	\$0	\$13½, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c	\$40, sales
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$1½, sellers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$47½
Punjum	\$6	\$8, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.4, buyers
Raults	15s. 10d.	\$6
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$20½, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$100, buyers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10.10, buyers
China Ordinary	£10	£10.10, buyers
Do.	£5	£5, 5s.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$49.
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$28½, sellers
Ind. China S. N.	£10	\$87, sellers
Shell Transport & Trading Co.	£100	£250
Sta. Ferry	\$7½	\$19, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$4½, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37½	\$43½, buyers
Watkins, Ld.	\$10	\$10½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$17, sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 16th February

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.45
Credits, at 4 months' sight	.50

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	200
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	144½
Bank, on demand	145

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	144½
Bank, on demand	145

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	4½ pm
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	2½ % pm
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1 % pm.
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ON HAIPHONG.—

on demand	2½ % pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	2 % pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	.61
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate 10.22

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per taal 53

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 16th February.—Since last report the freight market remain firm. From Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul & offered for small steamers, and 22 cents per picul for larger; to Java, 38 40 cents per picul; to Philippines, 12 cents. Java to Hongkong, 45 cents per picul. Bangkok to this, 6 and 31 cents per picul. Coal freights.—Mojito to Manila \$5; to Hongkong, \$2.75; to Singapore, \$3 per ton.

There are two vessels disengaged in port registering 3,728 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Bittern—British schooner, 390 tons, three trips Rajang to Hongkong, \$5.30 each trip.

Birchtor—British steamer, 2,378 tons, Mojito to Singapore, \$3 per ton.

Ailsa Craig—British steamer, 2,168 tons, Mojito to Manila, \$5 per ton.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 847 tons, Saigon to Manila, 39 cents per picul.

Taicheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Hongkong to Swatow, \$2 per ton.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Tedartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,034 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Else—German steamer, 903 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,144 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

City of London—British steamer, 2,056 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Peiyang—German steamer, 1,036 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.

Taihu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.

Pakshan—British steamer, 1,235 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Progress—German steamer, 799 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25½ cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 1,145 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25½ cents per picul.

Hinsang—British steamer, 1,536 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 40 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Bengal (str.), *Stentor* (str.), Canton (str.).

For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—*Pyrrhus* (str.).

For MARSEILLE AND HAVRE.—*Annam* (str.).

For VICTORIA, B.C., VIA SHANGHAI.—*Glenogle* (str.), *Idzumi Maru* (str.).

For PORTLAND, O.—*Abergeldie* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Queen Eleanor* (str.), *St. Regulus* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Guthrie* (str.).

For SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND BOMBAY.—*Bormida* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—

ARRIVALS.

10. Geflon, German cruiser, from Sandakan.
10. Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
10. Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
10. Calchas, British str., from Singapore.
10. Germania, German str., from Java.
10. Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
10. Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Canton.
10. Kosai Maru, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.
10. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
10. Kingsing, British str., from Canton.
10. Holsatia, German str., from Moji.
10. M. Jensen, German str., from Haiphong.
10. Phranang, British str., from Bangkok.
10. Picciola, German str., from Sourabaya.
10. Swatow, German str., from Haiphong.
11. Rasboni, Russian cr., from Port Arthur.
11. Hinsang, British str., from Java.
11. Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
11. Salasie, French str., from Shanghai.
11. Nanchang, British str., from Manila.
12. Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
12. Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
12. Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., from S. F.isco.
12. Cereda, British str., from Singapore.
12. Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
12. Kong Beng, British str., from Saigon.
12. Taifu, German str., from Saigon.
12. Hangebow, British str., from Canton.
13. Australian, British str., from Melbourne.
13. Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
13. Ayr, British str., from Kutchinotsu.
13. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
13. Sungking, British str., from Manila.
13. Relief, American transport, from Manila.
13. Amigo, German str., from Hoihow.
13. Macduff, British str., from Saigon.
13. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
13. Bellerophon, British str., from P.uang.
14. Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
14. Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
14. Decima, German str., from Saigon.
14. Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
14. Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
14. Savoia, German str., from Hamburg.
14. Robilla, British str., from Yokohama.
14. Chowtai, British str., from Saigon.
14. Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
14. Emma Lyken, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
14. Glenturret, British str., from London.
14. Hauoi, French str., from Haiphong.
14. Kalgan, British str., from Canton.
14. Benvorlieb, British str., from Moji.
15. Diamante, British str., from Manila.
15. Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
15. Benlawers, British str., from Java.
15. Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
15. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
15. Atagoan Maru, Jap. str., from Saigon.
15. Fra. Ferdinand, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
15. Guthrie, British str., from Kobe.
16. Choyang, British str., from Canton.
16. Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
16. Cirin, Russian str., from Manila.
16. Mongkut, British str., from Bangkok.
16. Natuna, British str., from Bangkok.
16. Oopack, British str., from Liverpool.
16. Yedo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.

February—

DEPARTURES.

10. Iphigenia, British cruiser, for Singapore.
10. Yayama, Japanese gunboat, for Japan.
10. Bittern, British sch., for Hankow.
10. Glegarry, British str., for Shanghai.
10. Woosung, British str., for Amoy.
10. Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
10. Hunan, British str., for Wuhu.
10. Ariel, Norw. str., for Kutchinotsu.
10. Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., for S. F.isco.
10. Robt. Dickinson, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
10. Bengloe, British str., for Rangoon.
10. Shansi, British str., for Shanghai.
10. Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
10. Changsha, British str., for Shimonoseki.
11. Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
11. Chwnshan, British str., for Swatow.
11. Kwongsang, British str., for Swatow.
11. Iburi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
11. Hue, French str., for Hoihow.
11. Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
11. Choyang, British str., for Canton.
11. Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
11. Zenta, Austrian cruiser, for Macao.

11, W. H. Conner, Amr. ship, for Singapore.
 12, Abergeldie, British str., for Portland, Or.
 12, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
 12, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 12, Calchas, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 12, Orlando, British cruiser, for Manila.
 12, Pascal, French cruiser, for Shanghai.
 12, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 13, Gaelio, British str., for San Francisco.
 13, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 13, Benvenue, British str., for Nagasaki.
 13, City of London, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Mailan, French str., for Fakhoi.
 13, M. Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.
 13, Kingsing, British str., for Swatow.
 13, Glenogle, British str., for Tacoma.
 13, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
 13, Swatow, German str., for Haiphong.
 13, Nanchang, British str., for Hongay.
 14, Empress of India British str., for Vancouver.
 14, Cereda, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Australian, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 14, Hangehow, British str., for Yokohama.
 14, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 14, Gefion, German cruiser, for Manila.
 14, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
 14, Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.
 15, Hoilao, French str., for Hoilow.
 15, Ayr, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 15, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 15, Kosai Maru, Japanese str., for Amoy.
 15, Kalgau, British str., for Shanghai.
 15, Picciola, German str., for Saigon.
 15, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 15, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 15, Tsinau, British str., for Sydney.
 16, Iris, American cruiser, for Manila.
 16, Savoia, German str., for Yokohama.
 16, Taicheong, German str., for Hongay.
 16, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 16, Whampoa, British str., for Amoy.
 16, St. Andrews, Norwegian str., for Moji.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Anping*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs Archibald Little.
 Per *Choysang*, from Shanghai &c., Messrs. Edwards, Keeler, Curnon, Miss Strons.
 Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Miss Ridley, Miss Dackrell, Mrs. C. Noronha, 3 children and nurse, Mr. Schultz, Mr. and Mrs. Carstens, Messrs. Kindfleisch, Cornell, Robinson, Kachler, Fajardo, Sancho and servant, Mariana Lopez, Laplant Hoggart, Kelly, Russell, Wear, Capt. Clements, crew of str. *Magalanes*, 14 Chinese, 10 Malays, Messrs. Agio and servant and Garcia.
 Per *Phranang*, from Bangkok, Messrs. Scott and Sampson.
 Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Revs. Wit and Back.
 Per *Salazie*, for Marseilles from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Ku Yung, Mr and Mrs Gaillard and 2 children, Messrs de Breteuil, Duplessis, Ingelman, Lambotte, Hong Pao Ching and Yu Tson and servant; from Yokohama, Messrs Sugi, Otsuki, Crémolières, Kintozan, B. Matsui, Takeyawa, Yamaguchi, K. Niwa, Kitajima, Kobayashi, H. Otaki, Matsubara, Schabell, Albert Jourdan, Hirooka, Sida and Jokota; for Port Said from Shanghai, Mr H. Jaillon; from Nagasaki, Messrs Golokoroff and Kovalesky; for Colombo from Shanghai, Mrs Lee; from Yokohama, Mr K. Taromall; from Kobe, Mr Ozawa and servant; for Singapore from Shanghai, Mr Mayer, Mr and Mrs Shing Sek Choy and infant and Mr Benazroff; from Yokohama, Mr and Mrs Machaele and infant and Mr Kodama; from Kobe, Mr Edwards; from Nagasaki, Mrs Imada, Messrs Furukunaga and Dick; for Saigon from Yokohama, Mr Sigrel; from Nagasaki, Mrs Yameshima; for Hongkong from Shanghai, Mr Barkill, Mrs Sanger, Mrs Merrill, Mrs Harrey, Mr and Mrs Cecil Holliday, Messrs Moller and Cumming, Mrs E. Dieber, Messrs E. V. Hudson, F. Oliveira and servant, Mariano, R. Movre, Said Mahmond, Douglas Jones, le Ct. Vidal, Wentzinsen, Howorth, Mrs Joo Emerson and Mrs Rena Crane; from Yokohama, Mr Henage, Mr and Mrs C. Rogge, Messrs S. des Remedios, O. Lee, Duboir, Mr. Benson and Mrs. Tormist; from Kobe, Messrs.

Ha Hing and Ha Lan, Mrs Ha Hing, Messrs Ch Cong and Nakamura, Mrs Baba, Mrs. Take-shita, Mrs Murata, Mrs Shikada, Mrs Kanabara, Mr and Mrs Mattaldi.

Per *Kong Beng*, from Saigon, Miss Wells and Mr Barrett.

Per *Hong'ong Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Miss Carrie Rieke, Miss Clara Rieke, Mrs Leon Rondiez, Miss Helen Rondiez, Miss L. K. Holbrook, Mrs S. B. Tainter, Mrs A. S. Towar, Messrs Alvord Towar, John D. Ludwig, R. S. MacDougall, W. J. Carlisle, Wm. Whaley, Jr., Chas. Rieveley, A. Hockwold, R. E. Toeg, D. C. Campbell, R. C. Tarbridge, W. Cox, D. W. Crawford, G. Willeumier, T. L. Ogden, Cates and R. Paul.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mrs Moal, Lieut. Rust, Messrs W. M. John and H. Jensen.

Per *Yueching*, from Coast Ports, Messrs White and L. D. Mansfield, Rev. Grairs, Mr Joshi I. Gaeahs, Rev. McKebbur and Mr Black.

Per *Australian*, from Australia for Hongkong, Mr and Mrs Focken and 2 children, Miss Biddell, Mrs Lemun, Messrs McKellar, Goldman, Daniells, Mr and Mrs Pomeroy, Messrs Thomson and Mitchell; for Shanghai, Misses E. and A. Masou and Mr Lindsay.

Per *Meefoo*, from Shanghai, Misses Hanish (2).

Per *Kumsang*, from Singapore, Rev. Hard Humphrey, Mrs Humphrey and Mr G. L. Bailey.

Per *Sarala*, from Hamburg, &c., Miss Bohm.

Per *Fernest*, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs R. H. Bruce, E. Thomas, C. MacLachlan and W. Tomkinson.

Per *Sydney*, from Marseilles, &c., Messrs Pasquet, Augustin, Verschnur, Lynum, Vancher, Rouget, Mr. Mrs and Miss Mercier, Mr and Mrs O'Connell, Mrs Girard, Miss Dan and Mr Felix.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Dr and Mrs Barrett and Mrs Des Remedios, child and infant; from Kobe for Colombo, Mr M. A. Greppi; for London, Mrs A. L. Rock; from Nagasaki for Port Said, Mr Alexandroff.

Per *Glenhurst*, from London, &c., Mr C. G. Deuby.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Mrs. Vaughan, Mr. José de Loyzaga y Ageo, Mrs. Whistler and child, Mr. J. Ceantilio, Mrs. McDonald, Messrs. E. Van Motegel, Bois, and M. Junialem.

Per *Fz. Ferdinand*, from Trieste, &c., Mrs Steiner.

Per *Bengal*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. Shapson, W. F. Harty, J. Hartlett, H. R. Parkes, J. Graham, Mr and Mrs L. Boyb and native servant, Messrs. A. Spencer Eham and native servant, T. C. Breton, Mr C. and Miss Francis, Messrs. G. A. Taylor and E. A. Jones; for Singapore, Dr. Eden-Paul; for Colombo, Messrs E. Brown, L. S. Biddul and Capt. M. O'Sullivan; for London, Miss Ashby.

DEPARTED.

Per *Bayern*, for Shanghai, from Southampton, Mr E. Alabaster, Mrs Kinder and Children, Miss Sheppard and party, Miss Richardson and party, from Bremen, Mr W. Wiede; from Genoa, Messrs F. M. Tratmann, H. E. Scheebler, Geo. Brown, M. Gamburg, Strasser, Siewert, Siecke, F. F. M. Bob, von During Consul March and family, Dr A. Forke and family, Mr and Mrs Gessel, Messrs Schoden, A. Smaezney, Pfluffer, Mr and Mrs E. Tomain, Misses Goer and M. Gould, Messrs E. Peterson, O. Weider, M. Kolis, E. Eilers, F. Fastla and R. Brill, Th. Schleiser and R. C. Allard; for Nagasaki, from Genoa, Mr Aug. Frahm; from Singapore, Miss Osotsang; for Hongkong, from Genoa, Consul Krien; for Yokohama from Genoa, Mr H. Kritzler; from Naples, Major F. Lenne; from Colombo, Mr F. W. Jones; from Penang, Mr P. Reuss; from Singapore, Dr H. Dihan; from Hongkong for Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Stevort, Mrs von der Heyde, Miss Clark and servant, Mr and Mrs Bass and child, Mr V. F. V. Pedersen, Mr S. H. Levy, Mr L. Boyack, Mrs Pear, Se. Man, Lieut. W. Wrey, Capt. Cheng, Mr T. H. Kingsley; for Kobe, Mr W. Smith and servant, Mrs Farrar, Miss Drysdale, Mr Nelson Clark; for Yokohama, Lieut.-Com. Goet.

Per *Sachsen* from Japan for Singapore, Messrs Konode a. S. Heruma, M. Hagaki; for Naples, H. E. von Kerbedz and party, Lieut. N. Grigorjeff, Mr and Mrs Bagoluboff; for

Genoa, Mrs I. Kuhn, Miss C. Kuhn; for London, Capt. R. C. Toa; from Shanghai, for Port Said, Mr L. A. Lyall; for Naples, Mr F. E. Meigs; for Genoa, Mrs Ingelmann; for London, Mrs and Miss Slade, Mr and Mrs J. Lambert Rees and child, Miss Fowler, Mr and Mrs Laing, Mrs Neven, Mr C. McCallum, Mrs. Berntsen and child; from Hongkong for Genoa, Hon J. H. Lockhar, C.M.G., Mr and Mrs C. A. Tomes and children, Miss Mellinship, Mrs C. Inghall and children, Miss James, Messrs Stultz and M. Pallow, Miss Coldwell, Mr and Mrs F. Schurch and child, Mr Kaestmar, Dr and Mrs Hill and child, Mrs A. Kuhn, Messrs G. H. Hummel and Mowrer; for London, Mr Thos. Edwards; for Hamburg, Dr Dobersky; from Yokohama for Bremerhaven, Mr A. Dewald; from Nagasaki for Port Said, Mr A. Revillah; from Nagasaki for Antwerp, Mr Feger; from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr E. Martin; to Antwerp, Mr G. Schneider; for London, Mr J. S. Gibbs; for Southampton, Messrs Ch. Campbell and Murphy; for Hamburg, Mr Becker.

Per *Esmeralda* for Manila, Messrs. D. Clark, J. Maresh, Rev. G. J. Blatter, Messrs. P. Kraft, S. Bromberger, Master J. Davies, Messrs. W. H. McHartz, J. C. Nichols and servant, G. Havers, Pedro Garcia, W. Mesquido, Pasqual Jondio, Jose Legari, B. W. Lewis, J. Chataran, T. Jhamanmal, J. Partabrai and F. Arino.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong for Saigon, Revs. Humbert Fournie and Percevaux; for Singapore, Messrs V. R. Bowden, E. Chandobloy, H. Schultz, P. Rindfleisch, J. Weir, C. Geroloma and Reo Pages; for Batavia, Mr W. Timm; for Djibour, Mr Beauchamp, Governor of Reunion, Mrs Beauchamp, Lieut. L. Mayer; for Marseilles, Mrs M. Cosseny.

Per *Gaelic*, for Shanghai, Messrs. B. R. Jopson, and J. Wentzenson; for Kobe, Mr T. Myasaki; for Yokohama, Captain B. H. Fuller, U.S.M.C., and Mr R. W. Hutchins; for Honolulu, Mr W. Y. Treat, Col Chas. Bird, U.S.A., Mr Thos. Chapman; for San Francisco, Miss E. J. Newton, Capt. McGowan, Mr E. W. Ogden, Mrs Adele, C. Orden, Mrs Mary Stephenson, Mr and Mrs C. H. Nichols, Master Herbert Nichols, Messrs Jas. Cruickshank, F. Cornhill, W. H. Hamilton and A. L. Young; for New York, Mr Fred. J. Renville; for Seattle, Wash., Mr G. Kachler.

Per *Empress of India*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Mr L. N. Leaf, Mr and Mrs H. W. Boyd, Mr and Mrs Thos. A. Eddy and daughter, Miss S. C. Waller, Messrs J. Jebson, A. J. H. Moule, W. A. H. Moule and Capt. K. R. Campbell; for Nagasaki, Messrs Jas. A. Cox and J. M. Lihrt; for Kobe, Mr Mak Yuk Tong; for Yokohama, Mrs E. H. Smith, Mrs Geo. L. Otis and maid, Miss H. K. Otis, Miss Scudder, Dr. A. G. Smith, Messrs Nei Cheong, Mak Yu and Mak Han; for Victoria, Mr Kim Sui Chee, Mrs Wong Kim, Miss Lee Wah and Mr Sham Pak Sun; for Vancouver, Mr and Mrs Henry Carstens, Mr J. H. Moynah, Mrs Wong Oi, Mrs Yip Yuen and 2 children, Mrs Yip On and 3 children; for New York, Captain Theodore F. Jewell, U.S.N.; for San Francisco, Rev. W. K. McKibben; for London, Colonel and Mrs Newman, Mrs Bannan and Miss Bannan; for Paris, Mousirs M. Guibert, Le Bret and Fleury; from Shanghai for London, Mr P. W. Richardson; from Yokohama for Hamilton, Ont., Mr and Mrs George F. Fucett; for London, Mrs A. M. Farrar, Miss I. Drysdale, Captain and Mrs E. C. Hamilton, maid and valet, Miss Hamilton and Miss Stormes.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Miss E. B. Ridley, Miss W. E. Dockrill, Mrs G. Sanger, Miss N. Mervil, Mrs M. Harvey, Messrs J. M. S. Machado, Augt. Domenjod, J. McCulloch, W. H. Martin and John H. Samlen.

Per *Sydney*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Mrs Rena Crane, Mrs J. Emerson, Capt. Bennett, Messrs G. Duncan, J. Posada, M. Marti and M. Johnson; for Yokohama, Mr Riego de Dios and servant.

Per *Tsinan*, for Manila, Dr. F. C. Rieloff, Mrs Holbrook, Mrs Towar and son, Mrs Glickerson and 2 children, Messrs A. Hockwold and Charles Rieveley; for Port Darwin, Mr John McDonald; for Sydney, Mr and Mrs Barclay.